

**MARVEL**

**#1**

SUMERAK  
DI VITO  
VILLARI

# GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

DREAM ON







WE ARE  
ALL BORN.



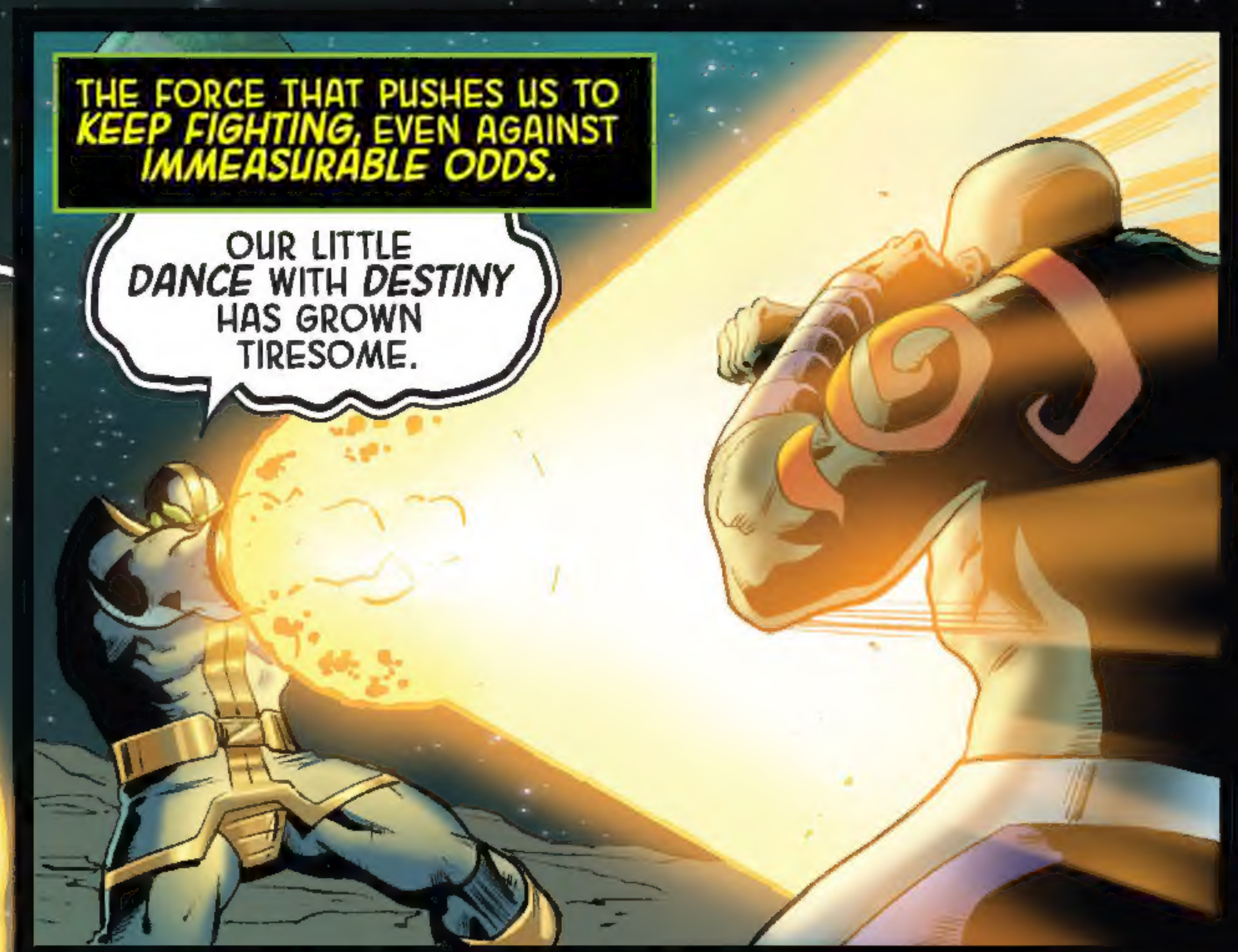
WE ALL  
DIE.

IN BETWEEN,  
WE ALL YEARN  
TO FIND  
THAT ONE  
THING THAT  
DRIVES US.



I SHOULD HAVE  
KNOWN YOU'D BE  
THE LAST TO  
FALL, DRAX.

THANOS!



THE FORCE THAT PUSHES US TO  
KEEP FIGHTING, EVEN AGAINST  
IMMEASURABLE ODDS.

OUR LITTLE  
DANCE WITH DESTINY  
HAS GROWN  
TIRESOME.



OUR  
PURPOSE.

THEN  
TAKE ONE  
FINAL  
BOW--



ONLY ONCE WE HAVE *ACHIEVED*  
THAT WHICH WE WERE *BORN* TO DO  
CAN WE *FINALLY* BEGIN TO ANSWER  
LIFE'S *GREATEST QUESTION*:

# DREAM ON

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JOE QUESADA: CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER  
DAN BUCKLEY: PUBLISHER    ALAN FINE: EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

--FOR  
TONIGHT,  
THANOS, YOU  
ARE *DESTINED*  
TO DIE!

HRRRK!

WHAT  
COMES  
NEXT?

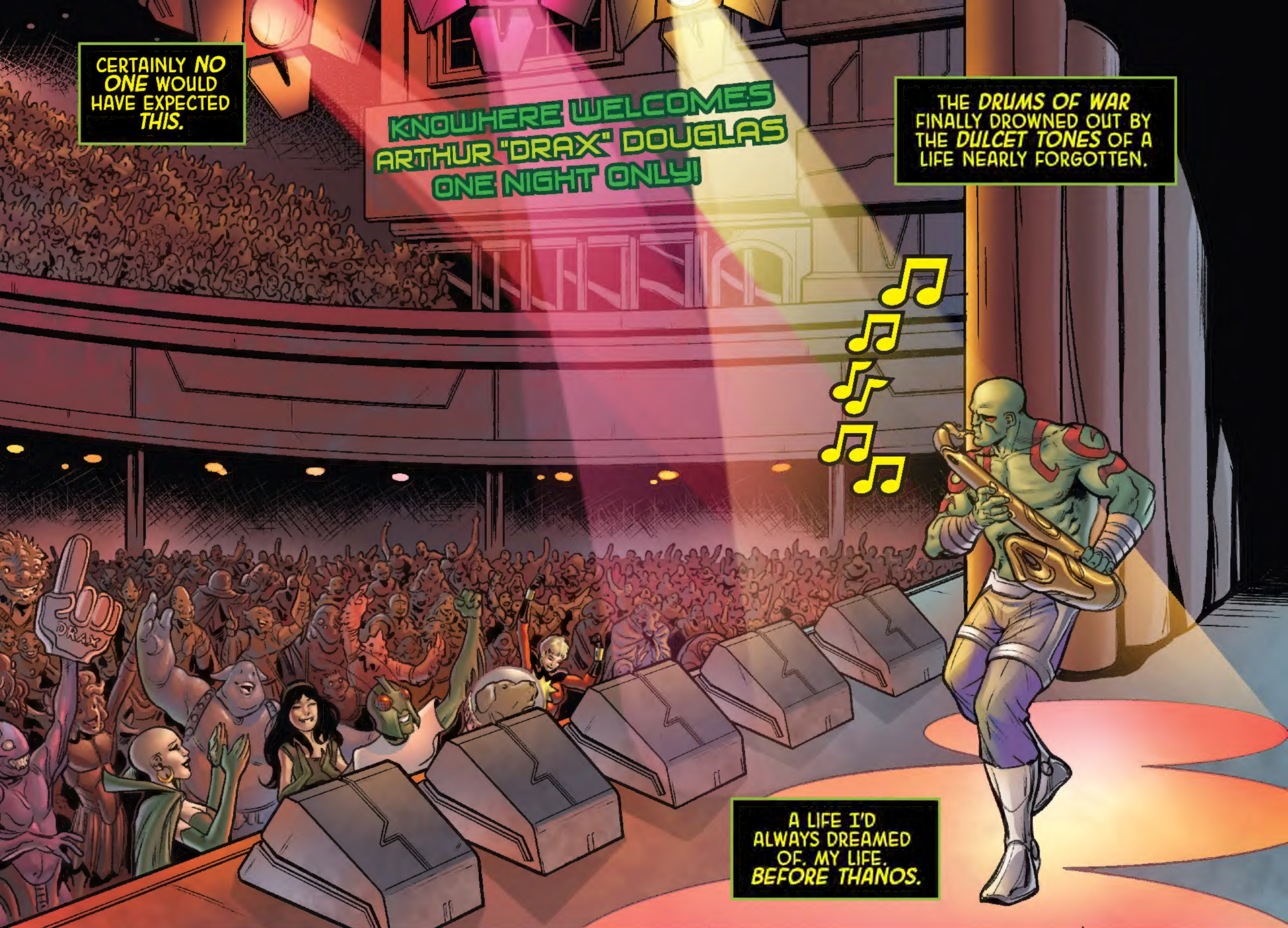




CERTAINLY NO  
ONE WOULD  
HAVE EXPECTED  
THIS.

KNOWHERE WELCOMES  
ARTHUR "DRAX" DOUGLAS  
ONE NIGHT ONLY!

THE DRUMS OF WAR  
FINALLY DROWNED OUT BY  
THE DULCET TONES OF A  
LIFE NEARLY FORGOTTEN.



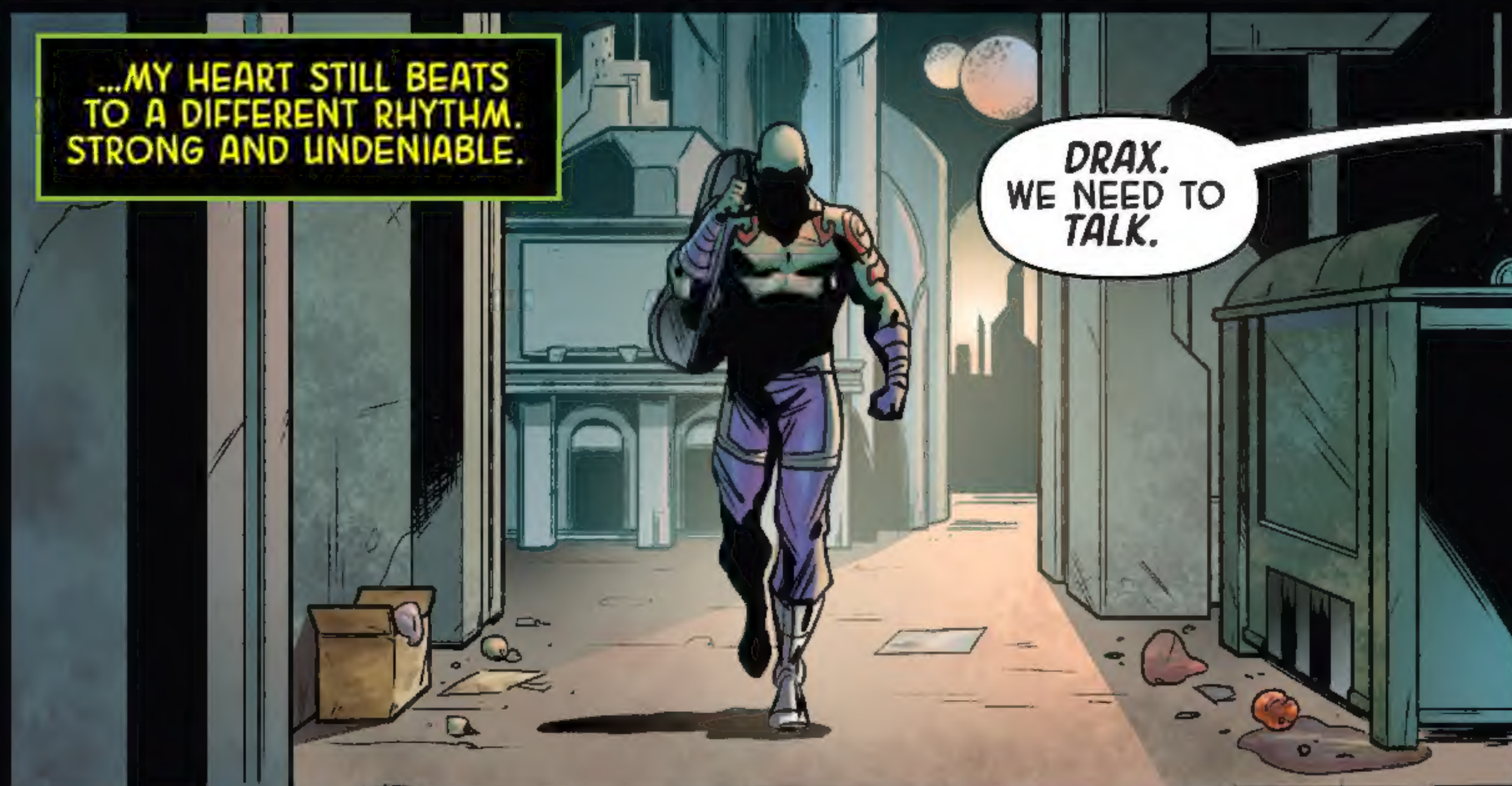
A LIFE I'D  
ALWAYS DREAMED  
OF. MY LIFE.  
BEFORE THANOS.

BUT WHILE  
THE MUSIC MAY  
ONCE AGAIN FLOW  
FROM MY SOUL...

DUDE, YOU  
TOTALLY ~~TIK!~~  
DESTROYED IT  
UP THERE!

...MY HEART STILL BEATS  
TO A DIFFERENT RHYTHM.  
STRONG AND UNDENIABLE.

DRAX.  
WE NEED TO  
TALK.



A BATTLE  
MARCH.

DO  
I KNOW  
YOU?

YOU  
WILL SOON  
ENOUGH.

I  
HOPE.







IT'S NEVER STOPPED.  
THE POUNDING IN  
MY CHEST, LIKE A  
FAMILIAR SONG...

I KILLED  
HIM TOO, YOU  
KNOW.

AFTER  
I STOPPED HIM  
FROM INVADING  
MY HOME PLANET,  
I SNUFFED OUT  
THANOS'  
DARK SOUL  
MYSELF.

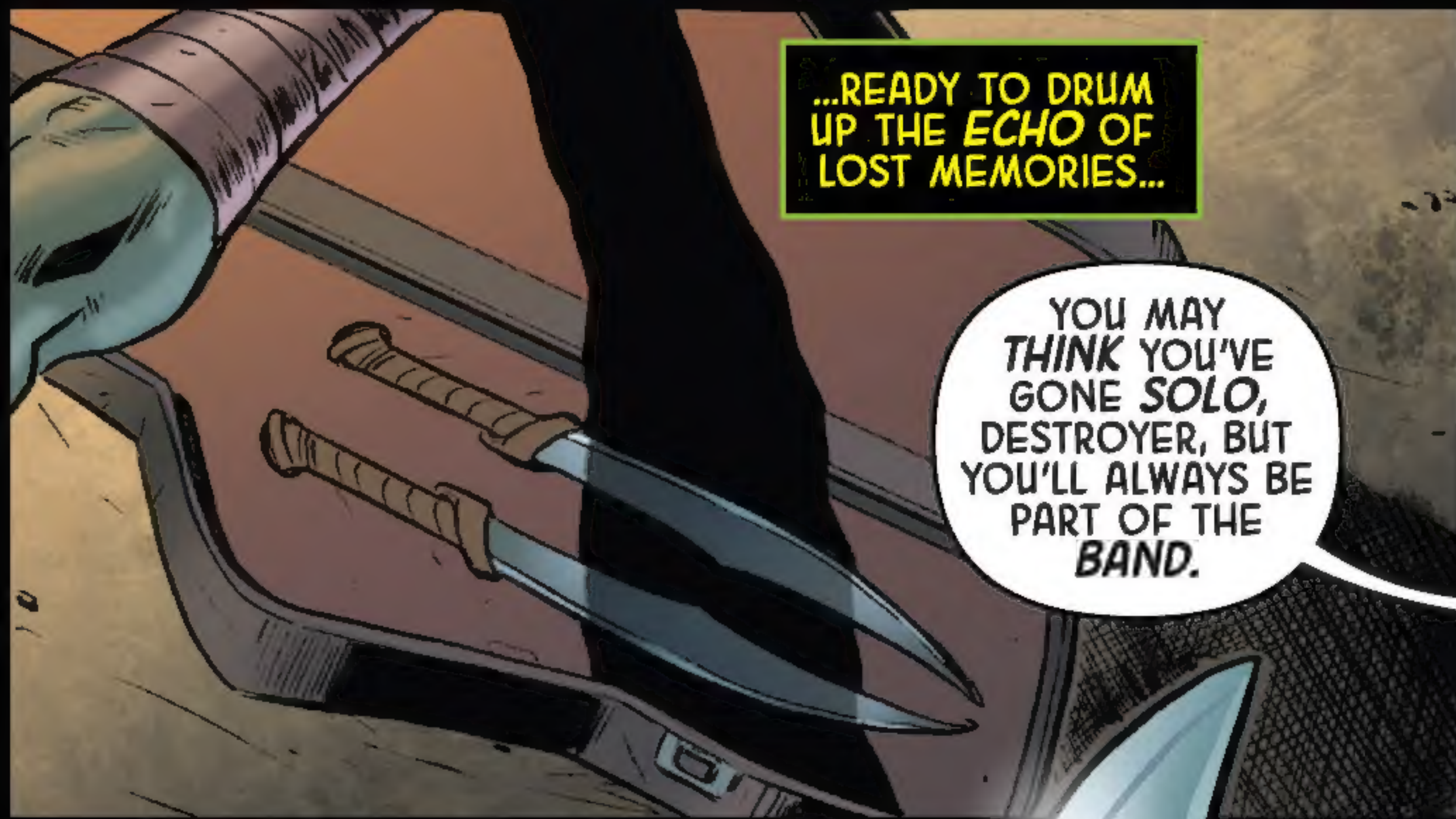
SO I  
UNDERSTAND  
WHY YOU'D WANT TO  
BELIEVE ALL OF THIS.  
I ALMOST WANTED  
TO STAY IN MINE  
FOREVER.



...ALWAYS  
LINGERING IN THE  
BACKGROUND...

STAY  
IN YOUR  
WHAT?

MY DREAM,  
OLD FRIEND.  
WHERE ELSE?



...READY TO DRUM  
UP THE ECHO OF  
LOST MEMORIES...

YOU MAY  
THINK YOU'VE  
GONE SOLO,  
DESTROYER, BUT  
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE  
PART OF THE  
BAND.



...ONCE I FINALLY  
REMEMBER  
THE WORDS.

THE  
GUARDIANS  
OF THE  
GALAXY.

THERE  
IT IS.  
WELCOME  
BACK.



WHO  
DID THIS TO US,  
GAMORA? AND WHERE  
ARE THE OTHERS?  
STAR-LORD? GROOT?  
ROCKET?

FOLLOW ME. BUT  
BRACE YOURSELF.  
WHERE WE'RE  
GOING...





...THINGS ARE  
BOUND TO BE  
UGLY.

OH, HI,  
GUYS. IS IT  
TIME TO GO  
ALREADY?

HMM.  
I EXPECTED  
SOMETHING  
A BIT *LESS*  
WHOLESOME  
FROM YOU,  
QUILL.

A NORMAL  
LIFE IS JUST  
A *DIFFERENT*  
KIND OF  
DISTURBING.

WHEN IT'S  
*TOO GOOD*  
TO BE TRUE,  
IT USUALLY  
ISN'T.

IF YOU SAW  
THROUGH THIS  
*RUSE*, STAR-LORD,  
THEN WHY DID YOU  
NOT COME TO  
*FIND* US?

ONE REASON.  
HER NAME IS  
*MEREDITH*. BUT  
I CALL HER  
*MOM*.

PETER HAS TOLD  
ME *SO MUCH* ABOUT  
YOU. WHY, *GAMORA*,  
YOU'RE EVEN PRETTIER  
THAN HE--

WHOA! HEY!  
LOOK OVER  
*THERE!*

I'VE ALSO GOT A  
*TOTALLY NORMAL* DAD  
WHO'S NEVER TRIED TO  
KILL ANY OF US!

HMPH.  
WHERE IS  
THE FUN IN  
*THAT?*



SORRY TO  
CUT THE *REUNION*  
SHORT, MOM. REAL OR  
NOT, I STILL MISS  
YOU. *ALWAYS*  
WILL.

BUT THERE'S  
A UNIVERSE *OUT*  
*THERE* THAT'S WAY  
LESS *PERFECT* THAN  
THIS ONE...





...AND  
SOMEBODY  
NEEDS TO  
SAVE IT.

ALREADY  
DID. ON MY  
OWN.

AND BEFORE  
YOU ASK, NO, I  
DON'T CARE IF IT'S SOME  
SORT OF ALTERNATE  
REALITY OR DREAM  
DIMENSION.

ALL I KNOW  
IS THAT I'VE FINALLY  
GOT **EVERYTHING** I  
WANT RIGHT HERE.



BUT NOT  
EVERYONE,  
ROCKET.

DON'T  
**FLATTER**  
YOURSELVES. YOU  
HAIRLESS APES JUST  
**CRAMP MY STYLE.** I  
WOULDN'T MISS A  
**SINGLE ONE**  
OF YOU.



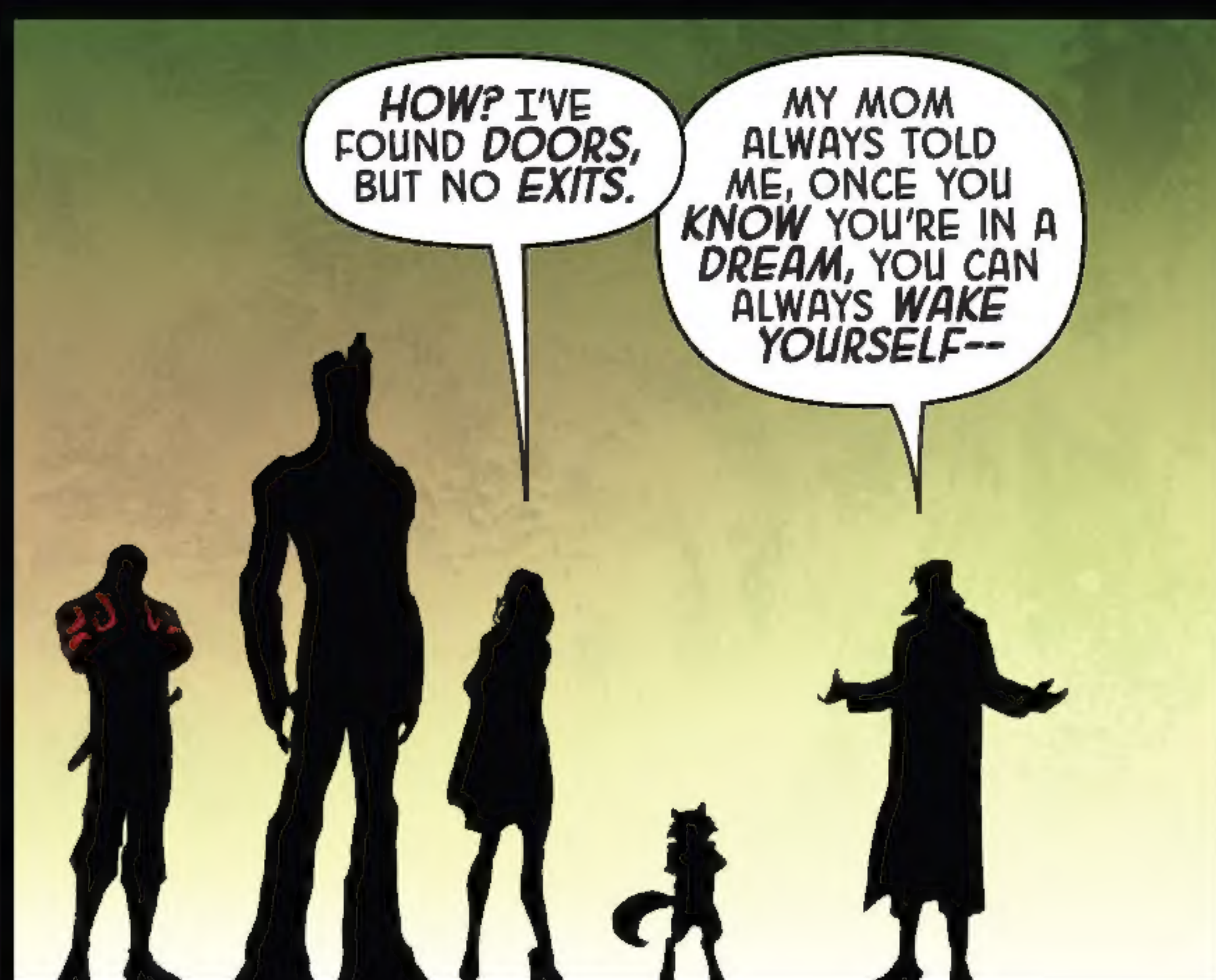
FINE.  
YA GOT  
ME.



I AM  
GROOT!

OKAY, OKAY, BIG  
GUY. ME  
TOO.

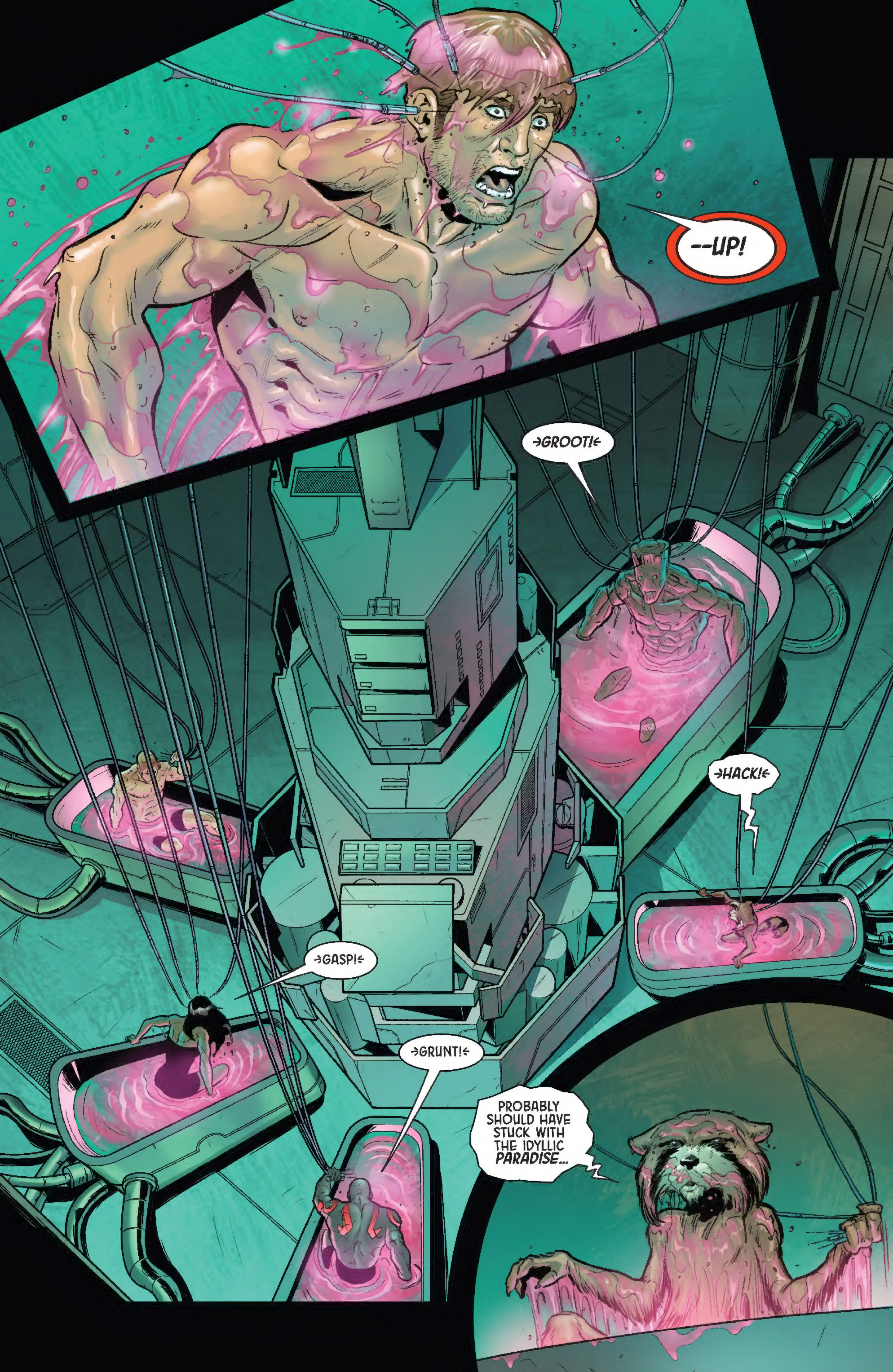
NOW LET'S DITCH  
THIS STUPID IDYLIC  
PARADISE AND  
PUNISH THE JERK WHO  
MADE OUR DREAMS  
COME TRUE!



HOW? I'VE  
FOUND DOORS,  
BUT NO EXITS.

MY MOM  
ALWAYS TOLD  
ME, ONCE YOU  
KNOW YOU'RE IN A  
DREAM, YOU CAN  
ALWAYS **WAKE**  
YOURSELF--





--UP!

→GROOT!←

→HACK!←

→GASPI!←

→GRUNT!←

PROBABLY  
SHOULD HAVE  
STUCK WITH  
THE IDYLIC  
PARADISE...





WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

I KNOW WHAT IT *ISN'T*. AND THE ANSWER IS: "*GOOD.*"

ANYONE REMEMBER HOW WE GOT HERE? MY HEAD'S STILL FUZZY FROM DREAMY-DREAMTIME.



MY HEAD IS COMPLETELY HAIRLESS, AND I STILL RECALL NOTHING.

THOUGH I AM GRATEFUL TO AWAKEN AND FIND OLD FRIENDS WAITING FOR ME.

AND ALL OF YOU, AS WELL, I SUPPOSE.

SMASH



SOMETIMES LIFE COULD REALLY USE ONE OF THOSE HANDY "*PREVIOUSLY ON*" MONTAGES.

I AM GROOT.

OF COURSE YOU DON'T NEED THEM! MAYBE IF YOU WATCHED SOMETHING OTHER THAN NATURE DOCUMENTARIES AND GARDENING SHOWS--



ENOUGH!

HOW WE GOT HERE NO LONGER MATTERS. HOW WE *GET OUT* STILL DOES.





ONE STEP  
AHEAD OF  
YA, G.

CLEARLY,  
WE'RE IN A  
STARSHIP'S  
HOLDING  
CELL.

SECURITY IS  
*HIGH-END*, BUT  
NOTHING I HAVEN'T  
ESCAPED FROM  
BEFORE.



WHOEVER  
CAPTURED US MUST  
HAVE BEEN COUNTING  
ON KEEPING US IN  
*SLUMBERLAND*  
FOR THE  
ENTIRE--



OH,  
FLARK.

WHAT IS  
IT, RODENT?



I KNOW  
THIS SHIP. IT  
BELONGS TO  
ONE OF THE  
UNIVERSE'S  
BEST *BOUNTY*  
HUNTERS.

AND THAT  
MEANS SOMETHING  
COMING FROM *ME*--  
THE UNIVERSE'S  
BEST *BOUNTY*  
HUNTER!



ACTUALLY,  
I'VE ALWAYS  
PREFERRED THE  
TERM "*FREELANCE*  
PEACEKEEPING  
AGENT."



BUT YOU  
MAY CALL ME  
DEATH'S HEAD,  
YES?

CAN WE  
GO BACK  
TO SLEEP  
NOW?

CERTAINLY.  
ALLOW ME TO ASSIST  
YOU WITH THAT  
REQUEST.

THOOM





WHY IS THIS  
GIANT ROBOT  
ATTACKING  
US?!

SAME  
REASON ANYONE  
DOES ANYTHING,  
YES?



FOR THE  
GREATER GOOD  
OF THE GALAXY?

ALTRUISM IS  
BAD FOR BUSINESS.  
ONLY FOOLS OFFER  
THEIR SERVICES  
FOR FREE.



MINE  
COME WITH A  
HIGH COST.

K-KLK



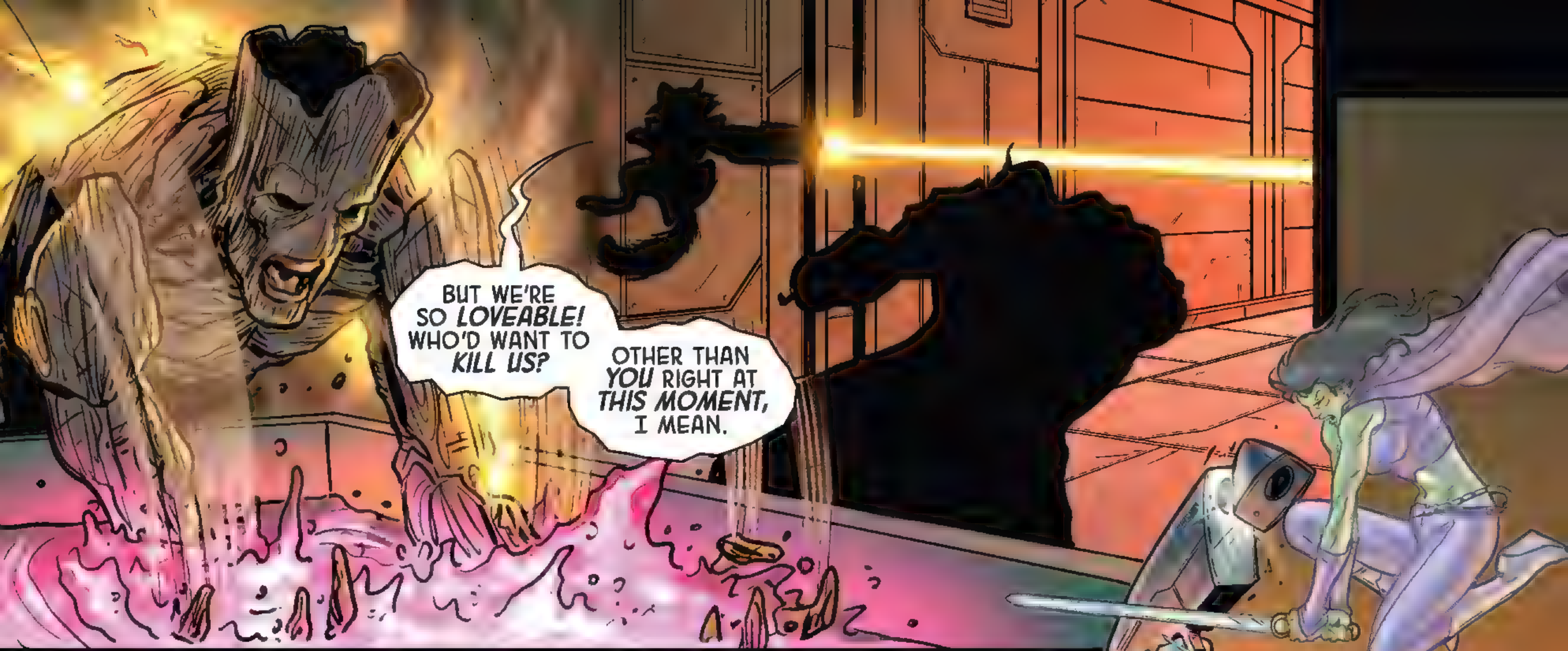
FOR  
EVERYONE  
INVOLVED.

I AM  
GROOT!!!!

NOTHING  
PERSONAL, OF  
COURSE.

FWOOOSH





BUT WE'RE  
SO LOVEABLE!  
WHO'D WANT TO  
KILL US?

OTHER THAN  
YOU RIGHT AT  
THIS MOMENT,  
I MEAN.



BADOON.

KREE.

SKRULL.

SPARTOI.

CHITAUURI.

COUNTLESS  
EX-GIRLFRIENDS.

BROOD.



ALL RIGHT.  
WE GET IT.

BUT IF THIS  
IS JUST ABOUT THE  
MONEY, THEN WE'LL  
PAY YOU MORE TO  
LET US GO.



UNLIKELY.  
WHEN I  
APPREHENDED  
YOU ON KNOWHERE,  
YOU COULDN'T  
EVEN PAY YOUR  
BAR TAB.





YOU'LL SOON  
BE PAYING MINE  
FOR SOME TIME,  
THOUGH, YES?

**K-THUNK**



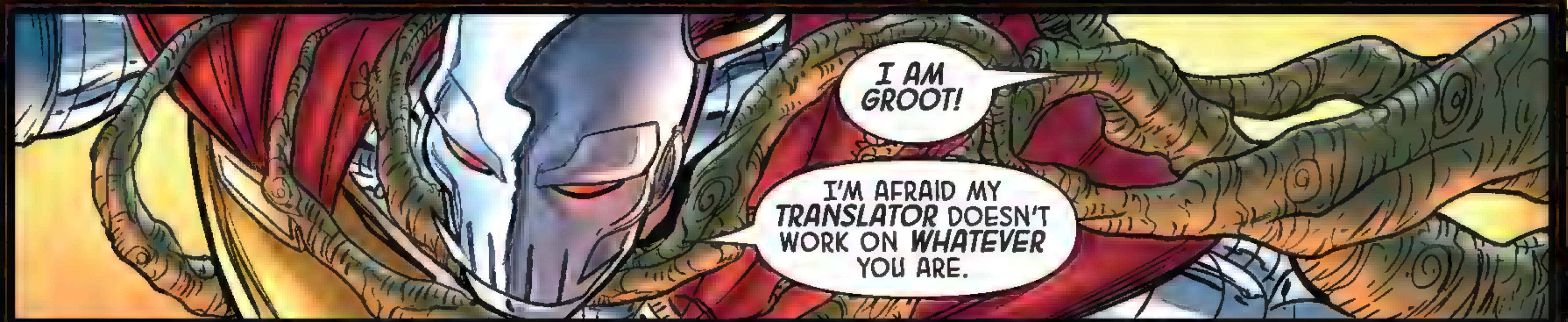
OF ALL THE  
KRUTAKIN'--

LANGUAGE.



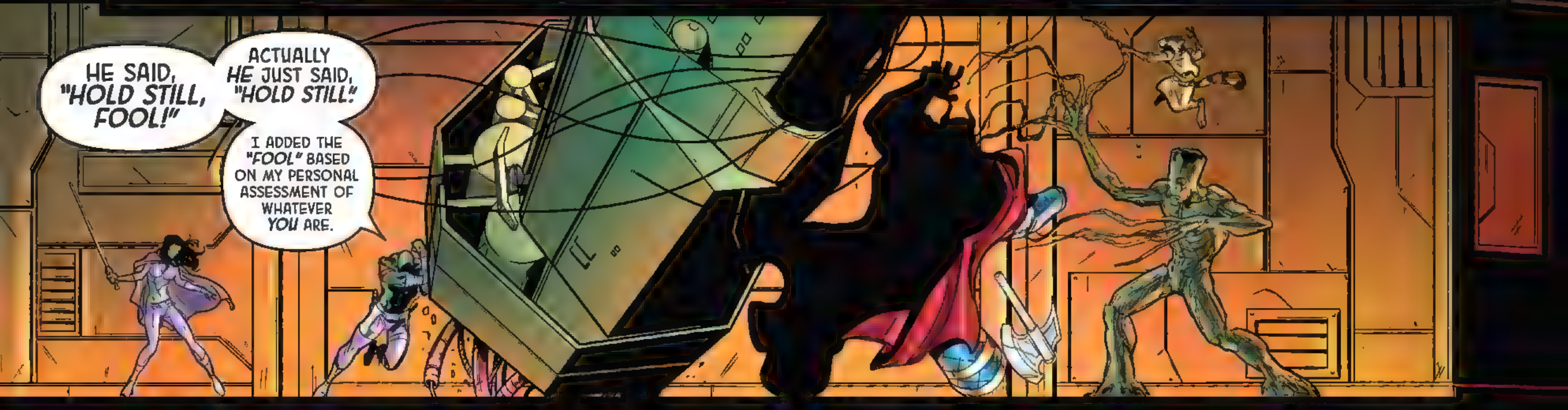
YOU HAVE A  
PROBLEM WITH  
**LANGUAGE,**  
MECHANOID?

WELL, WE  
HAVE A FEW MORE  
**CHOICE WORDS**  
FOR YOU...



I AM  
GROOT!

I'M AFRAID MY  
TRANSLATOR DOESN'T  
WORK ON **WHATEVER**  
YOU ARE.



HE SAID,  
"HOLD STILL,  
FOOL!"

ACTUALLY  
HE JUST SAID,  
"HOLD STILL!"

I ADDED THE  
"FOOL" BASED  
ON MY PERSONAL  
ASSESSMENT OF  
WHATEVER  
YOU ARE.





DAMAGE MY FEELINGS  
ALL YOU LIKE. BUT NO NEED  
TO DAMAGE THE EQUIPMENT.  
EXPENSIVE STUFF,  
YES?

NOT NEARLY  
AS EFFECTIVE AS  
ADVERTISED,  
THOUGH.

THE  
SOMINATOR  
4K WAS SUPPOSED  
TO SUBDUCE EVEN  
THE STRONGEST  
WILLS.



IF YOU  
THINK OUR "WILLS"  
ARE STRONG, YOU  
SHOULD HEAR OUR  
"WON'TS."

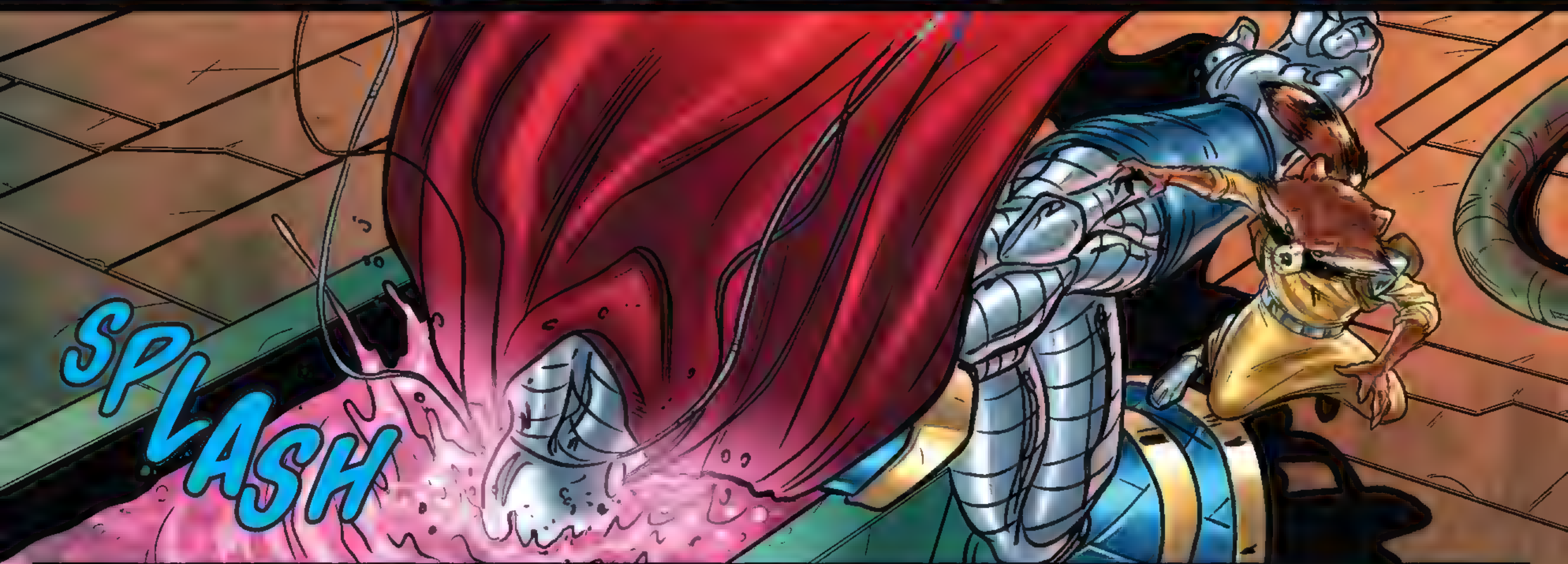
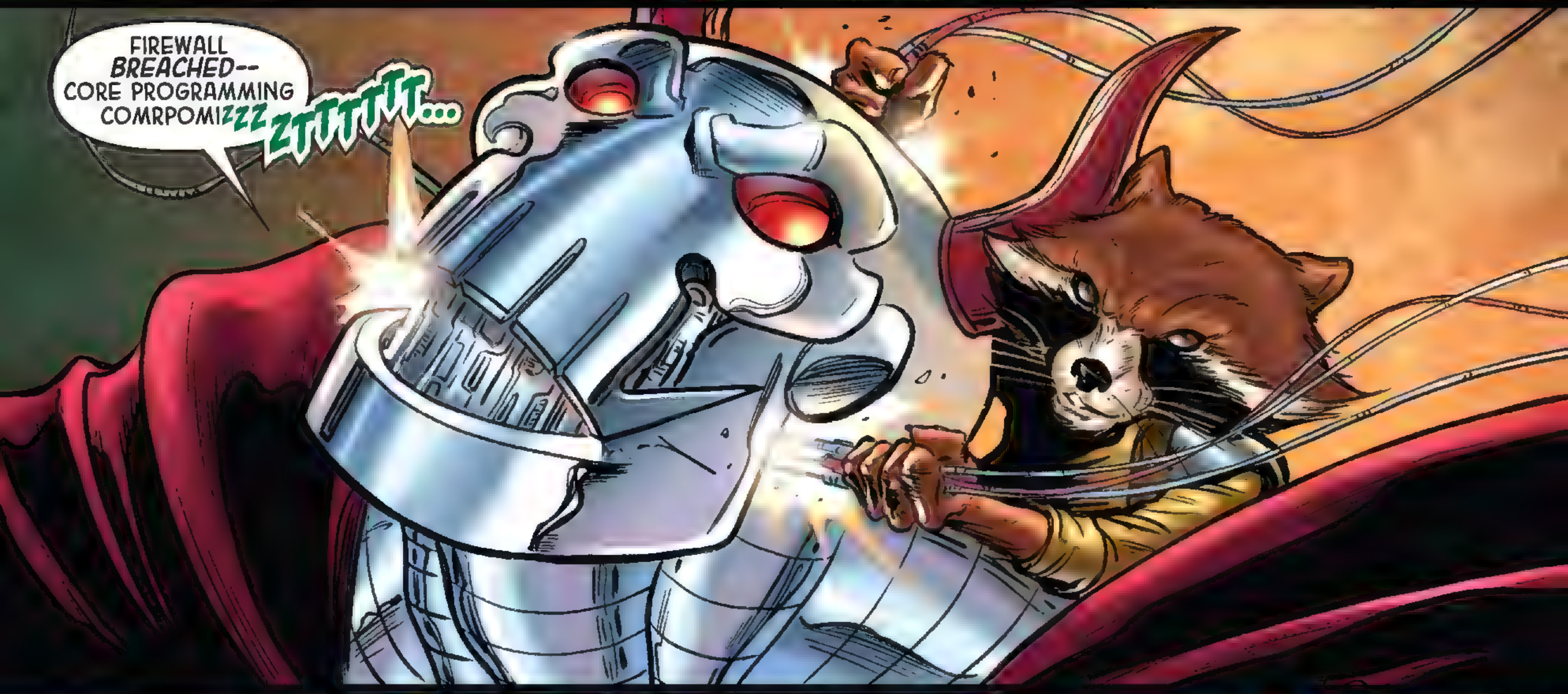


LIKE  
THIS  
ONE:

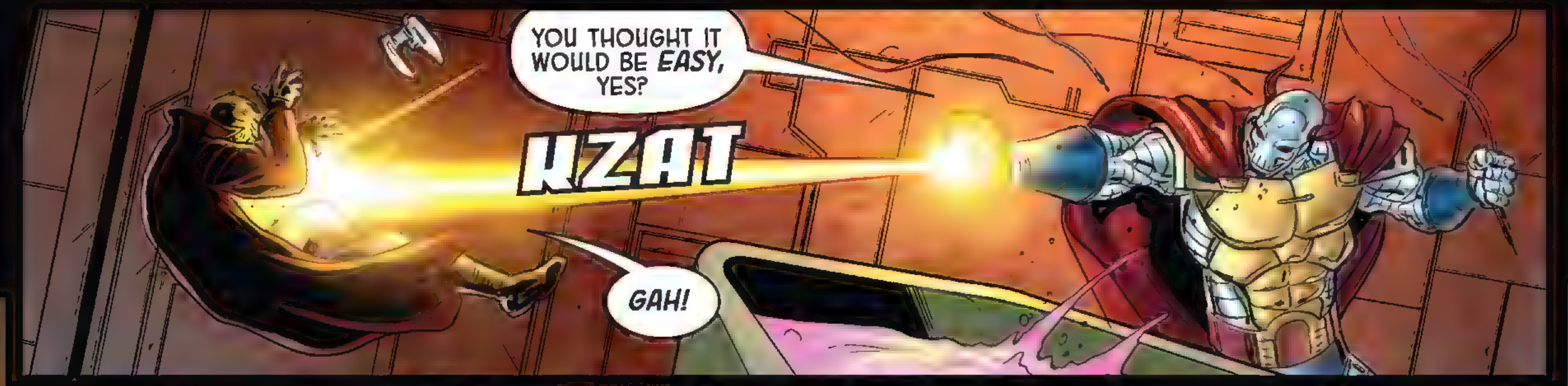


WE WON'T  
BE YOUR FLARKIN'  
MEAL TICKET,  
METALHEAD!













CAN'T TRUST NEWFANGLED TECHNOLOGY.

BETTER TO KEEP YOU IN LINE THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY UNTIL I CAN DELIVER YOU...



"...TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER."



HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO US? WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS!

THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE BADOON WILL SLAUGHTER US.

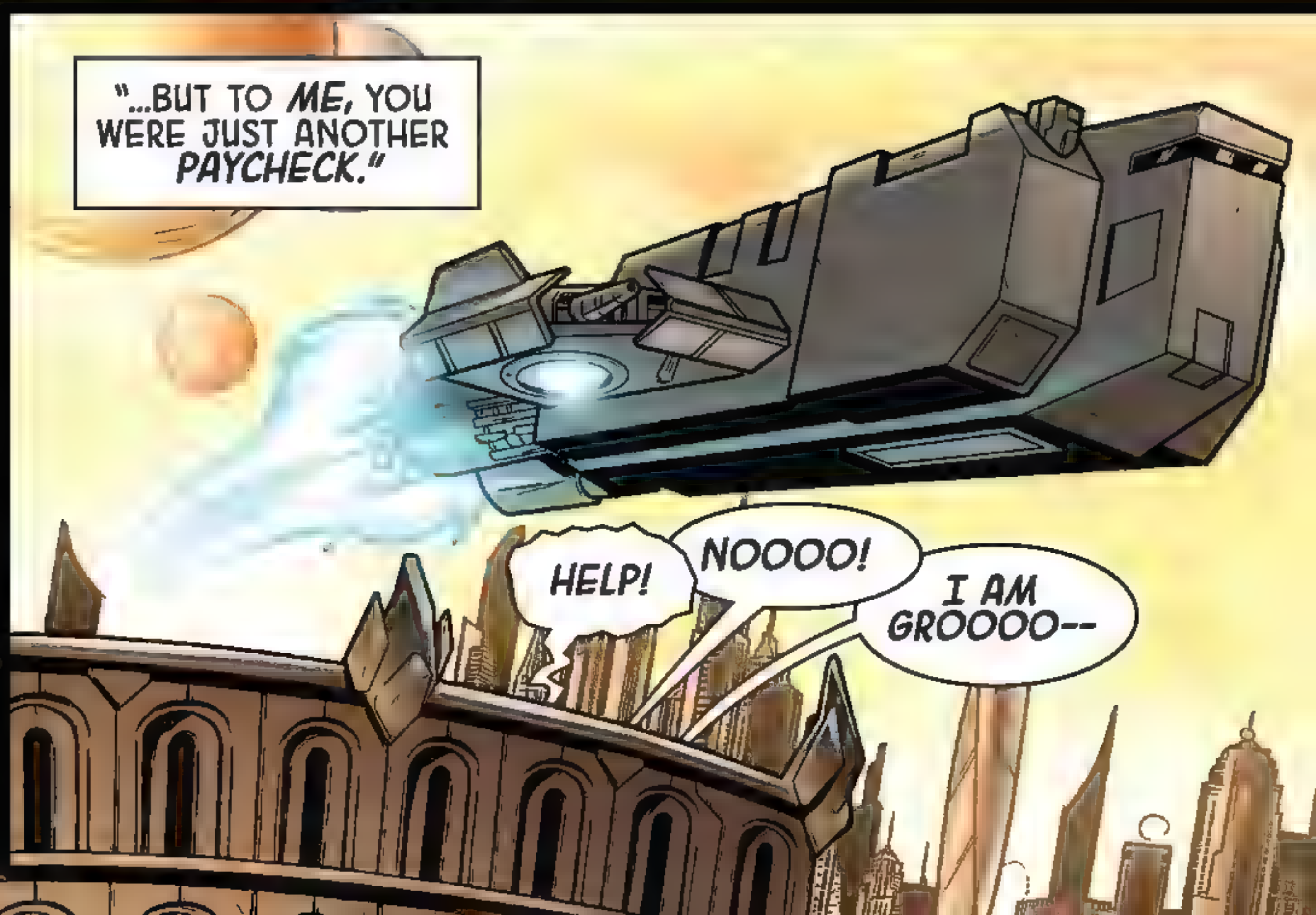
OR MAYBE WORSE!



AS I SAID, NOTHING PERSONAL, YES?

YOU MADE ME WORK FOR MY MONEY, AND I RESPECT THAT.

PERHAPS YOU WERE GREAT HEROES...



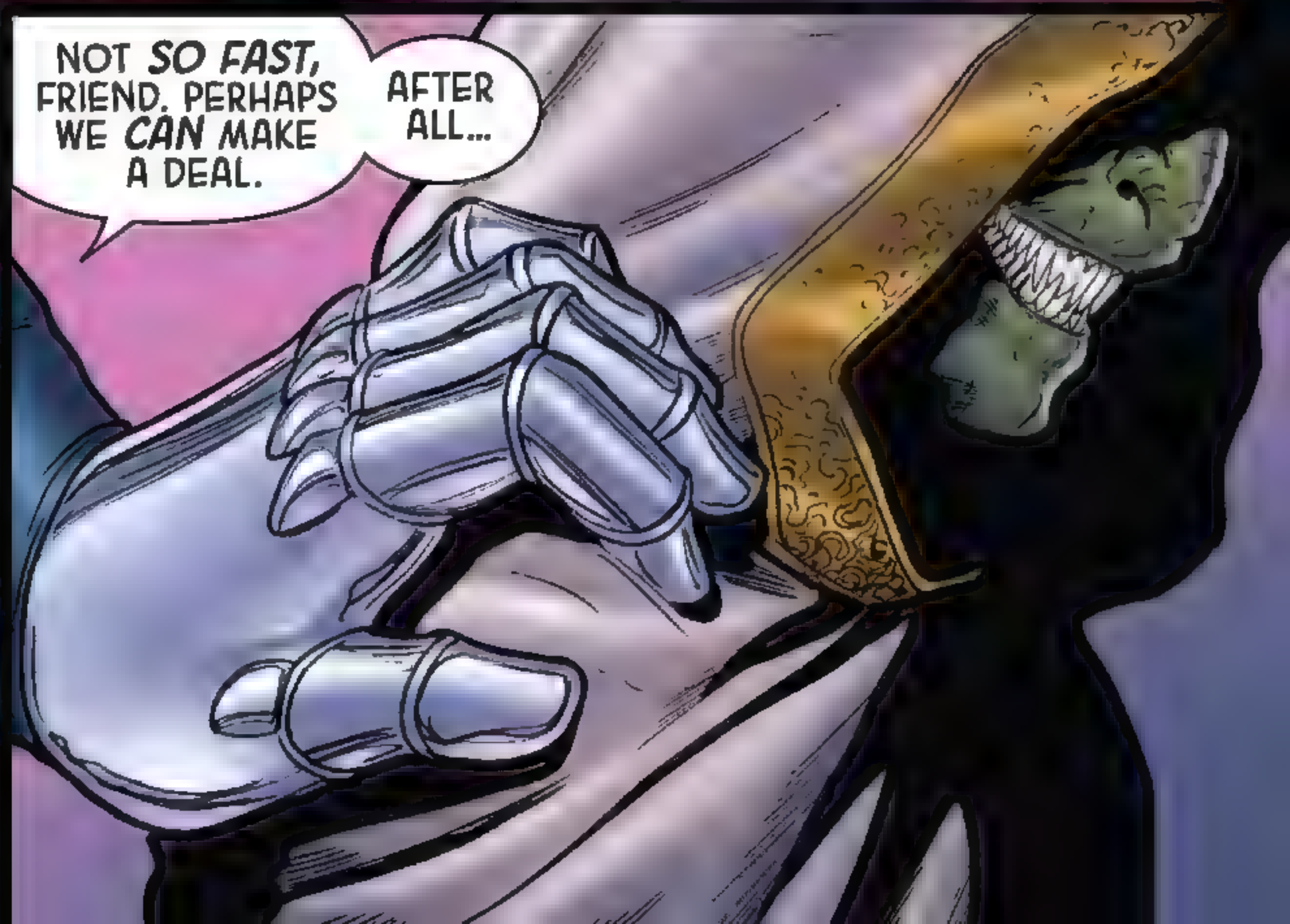
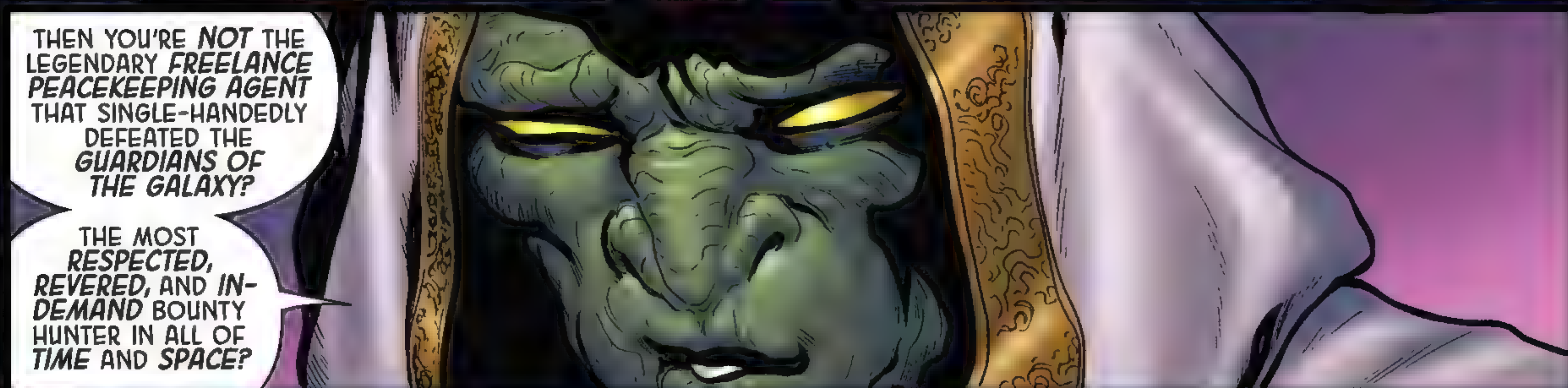
"...BUT TO ME, YOU WERE JUST ANOTHER PAYCHECK."

HELP!

NOOOO!

I AM GROOOO--









"...IT WOULD BE A  
**CRIME** TO LET A BODY  
**THIS PERFECT** GET  
RUSTY, YES?"

HUH. IT'S  
ALMOST TOO  
GOOD TO  
BE TRUE...



...BUT THE BIG **LUG NUT** HASN'T EVEN  
**TWITCHED** SINCE HE WENT DOWN  
FOR HIS LITTLE NAP.

WHAT  
DO ANDROIDS  
**DREAM OF**,  
ANYWAY?

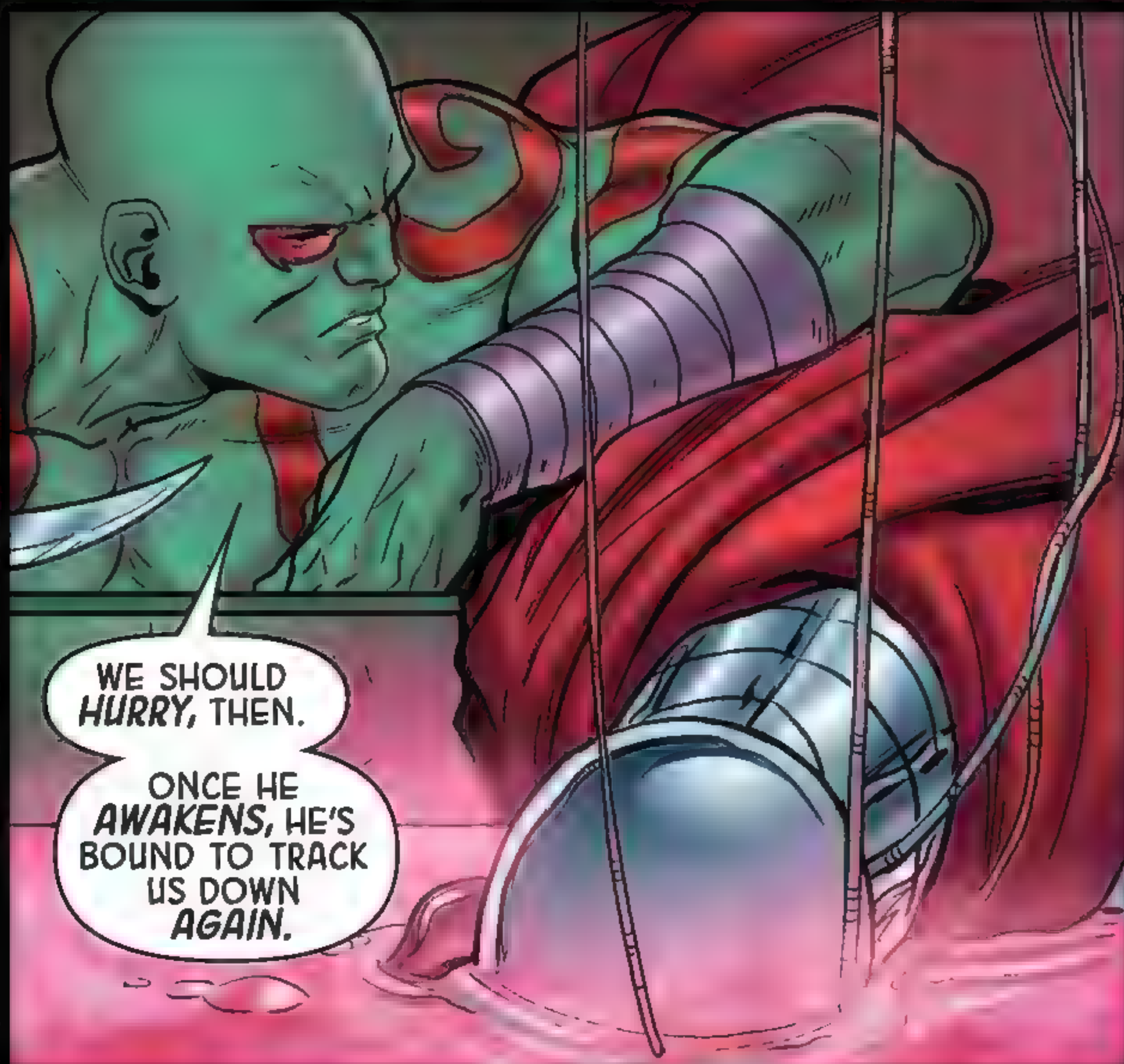
I AM  
GROOT.

WHAT ARE  
"ELECTRIC  
SHEEP"?

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER WHAT HE'S  
DREAMING AS LONG AS  
THE **REALITY** THIS MACHINE  
HAS CONJURED UP IS  
**CONVINCING**  
ENOUGH.

WE JUST  
NEED HIM  
**DISTRACTED**  
UNTIL WE CAN  
MAKE OUR  
**ESCAPE**.



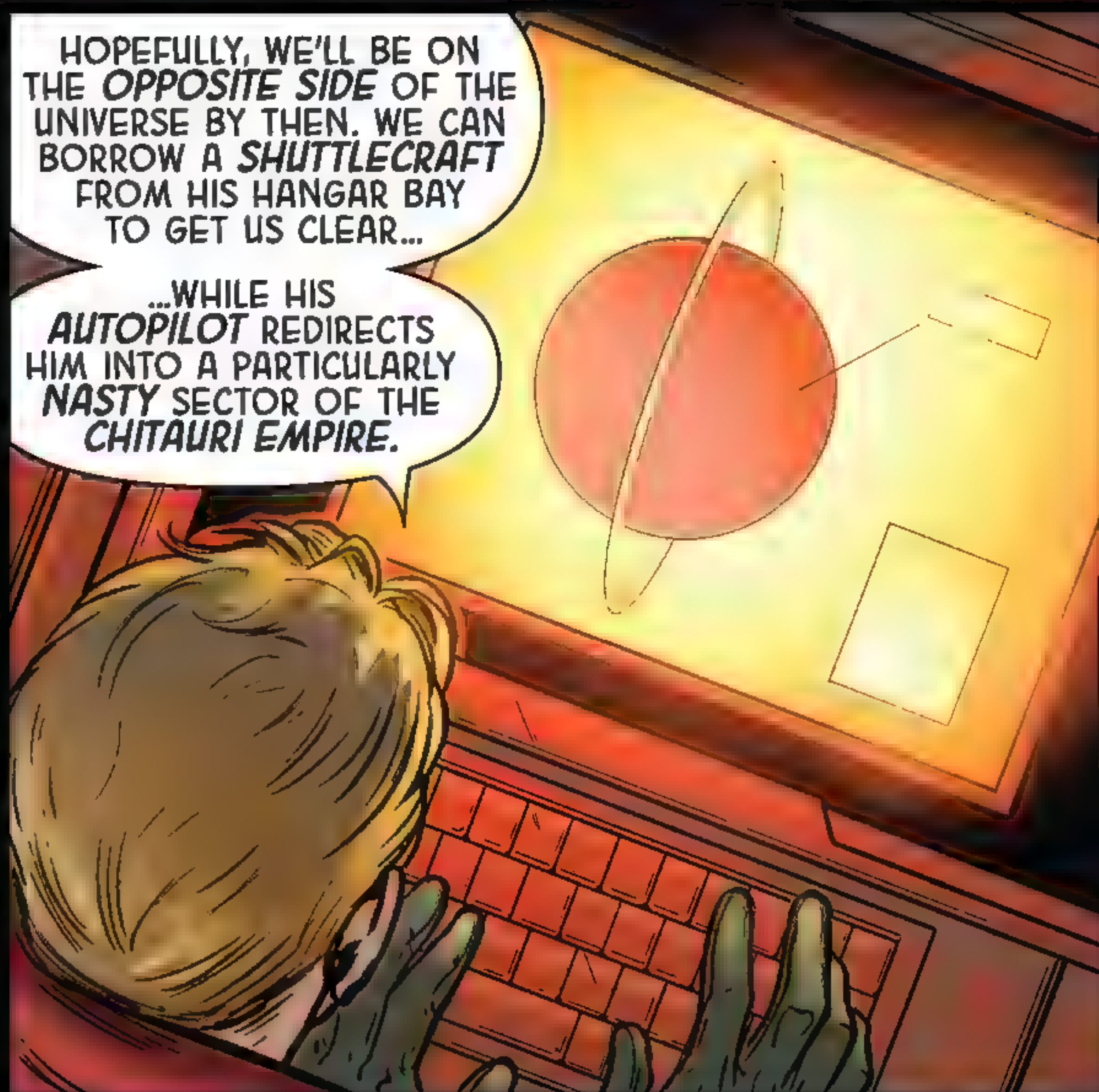


WE SHOULD HURRY, THEN.

ONCE HE AWAKENS, HE'S BOUND TO TRACK US DOWN AGAIN.

HOPEFULLY, WE'LL BE ON THE *OPPOSITE SIDE* OF THE UNIVERSE BY THEN. WE CAN BORROW A *SHUTTLECRAFT* FROM HIS HANGAR BAY TO GET US CLEAR...

...WHILE HIS *AUTOPILOT* REDIRECTS HIM INTO A PARTICULARLY *NASTY* SECTOR OF THE *CHITAUURI EMPIRE*.



STILL, IT *WOULDN'T HURT* TO REMOVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOUNTY ON OUR HEADS FROM HIS.

ROCKET, YOU THINK YOU CAN WIPE ANY TRACE OF US FROM HIS DRIVES?



ROCKET? WHERE'D YOU--

I AM GROOT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HE'S BUSY"?



OH, COME ON, MAN.

LIVING THE DREAM.

**END.**



Stan Lee presents  
**GUARDIANS  
GALAXY**

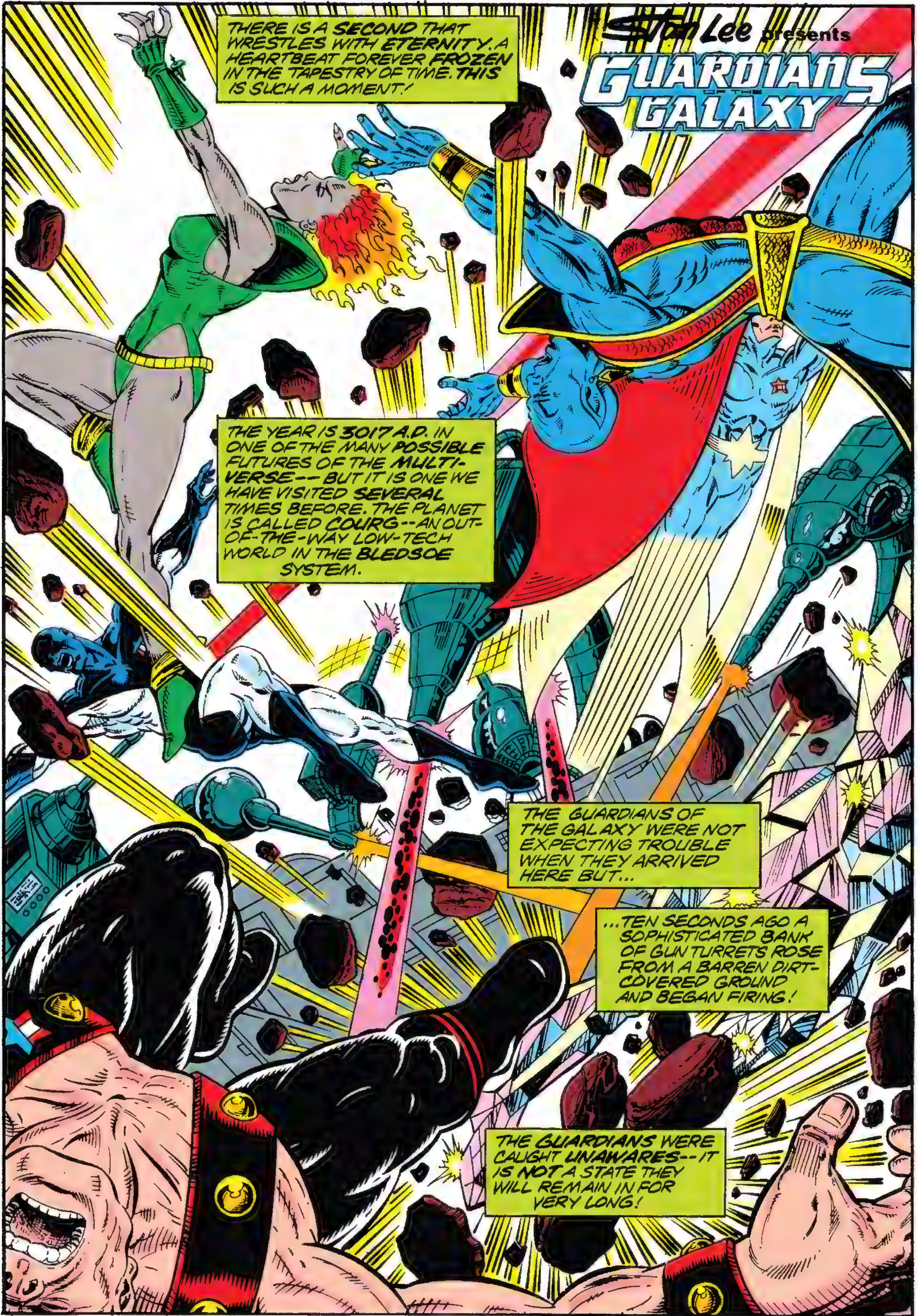
THERE IS A SECOND THAT  
WRESTLES WITH ETERNITY. A  
HEARTBEAT FOREVER FROZEN  
IN THE TAPESTRY OF TIME. THIS  
IS SUCH A MOMENT!

THE YEAR IS 3017 A.D. IN  
ONE OF THE MANY POSSIBLE  
FUTURES OF THE MULTI-  
VERSE--- BUT IT IS ONE WE  
HAVE VISITED SEVERAL  
TIMES BEFORE. THE PLANET  
IS CALLED COURG--AN OUT-  
OF-THE-WAY LOW-TECH  
WORLD IN THE BLEDSOE  
SYSTEM.

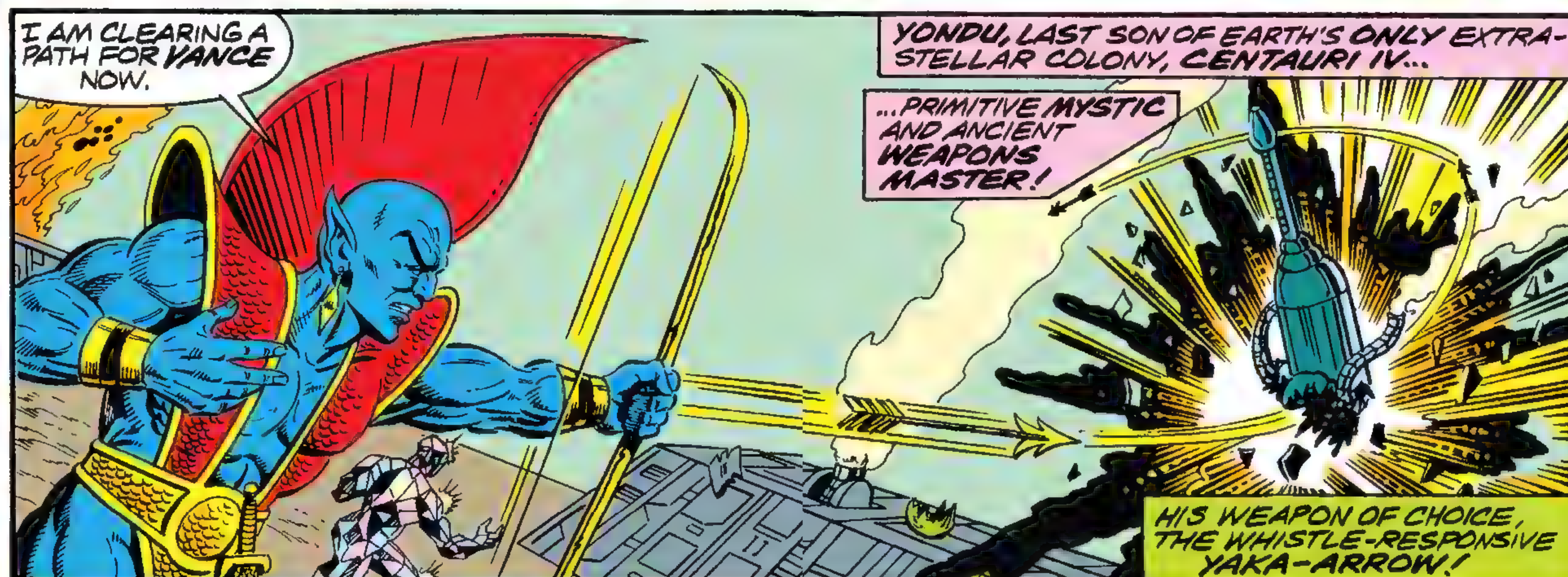
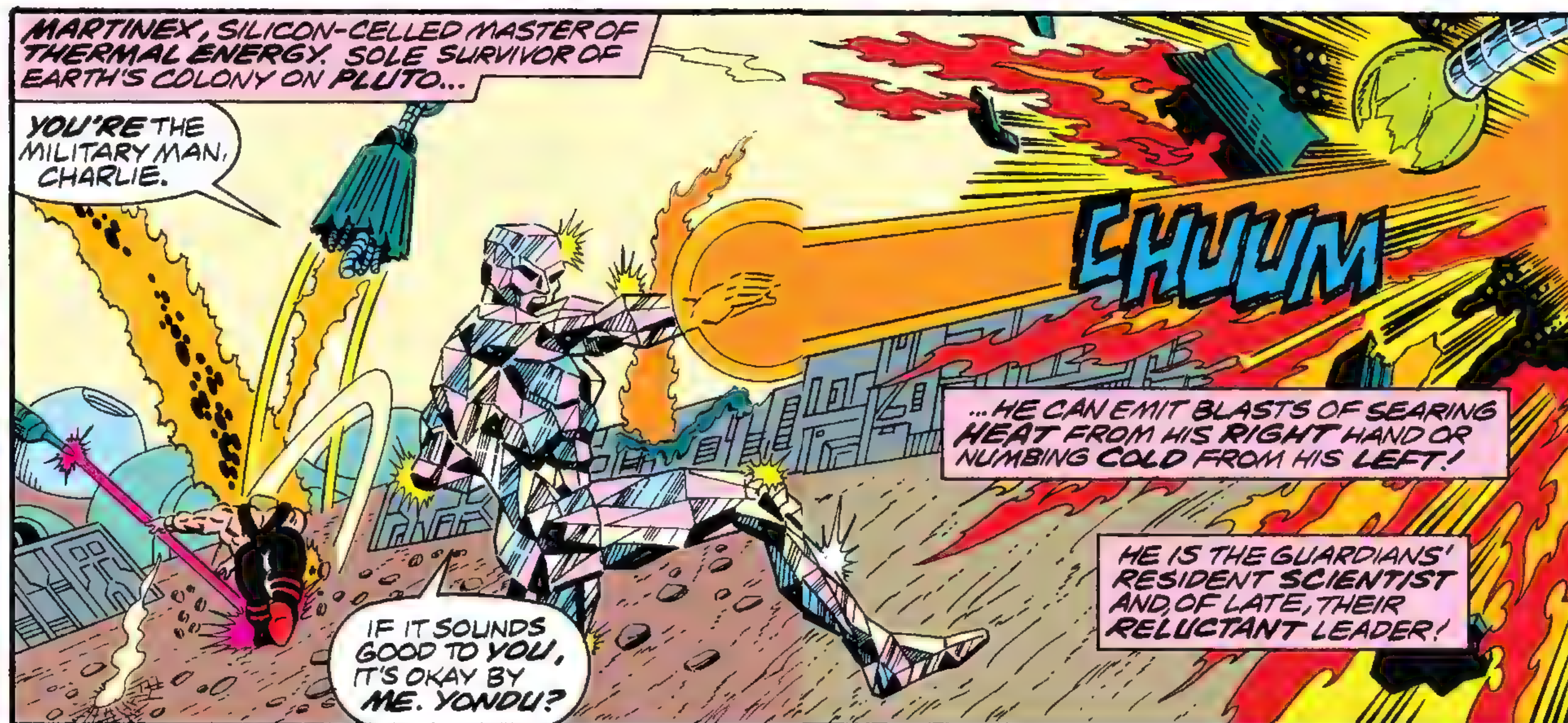
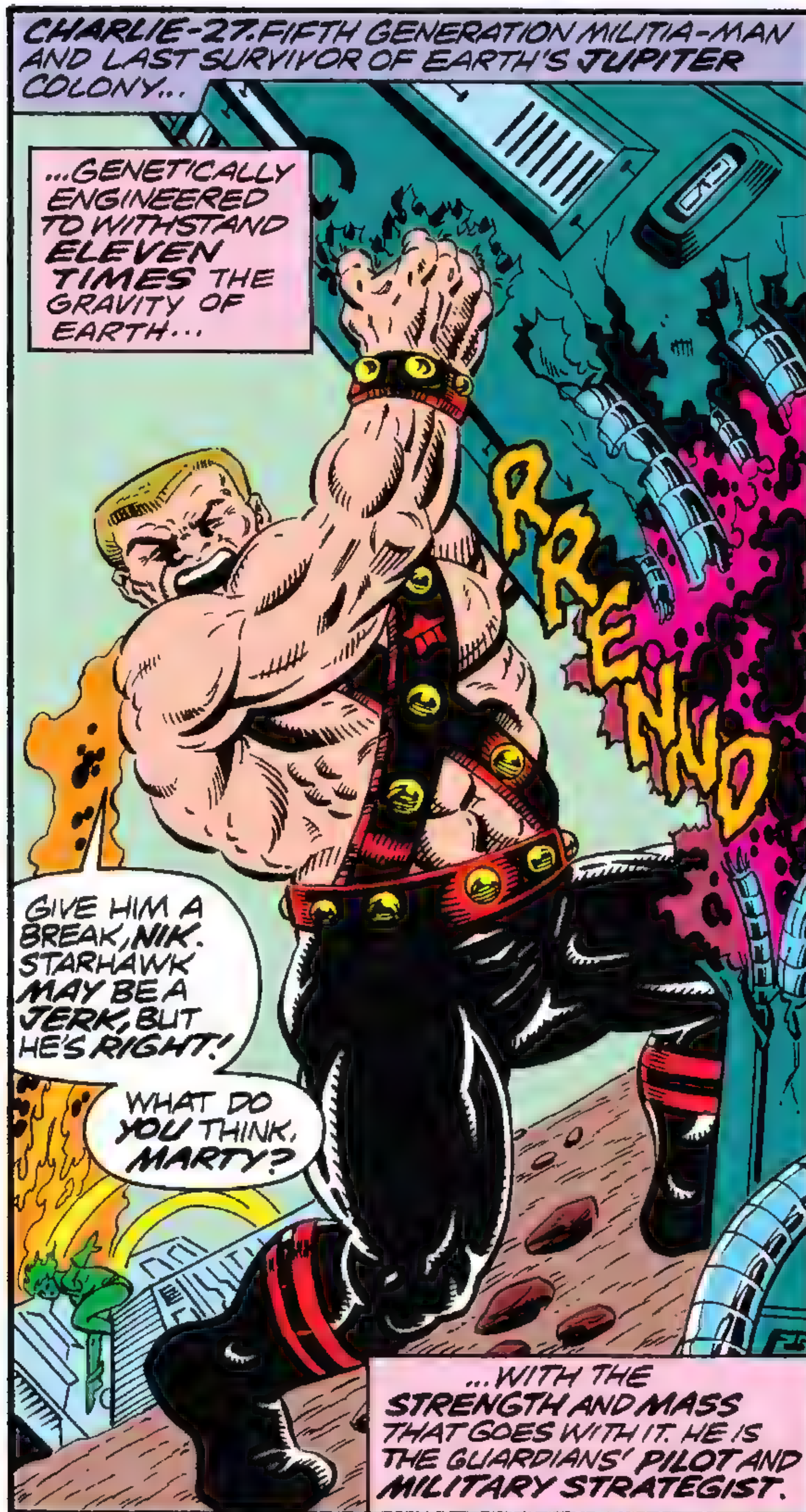
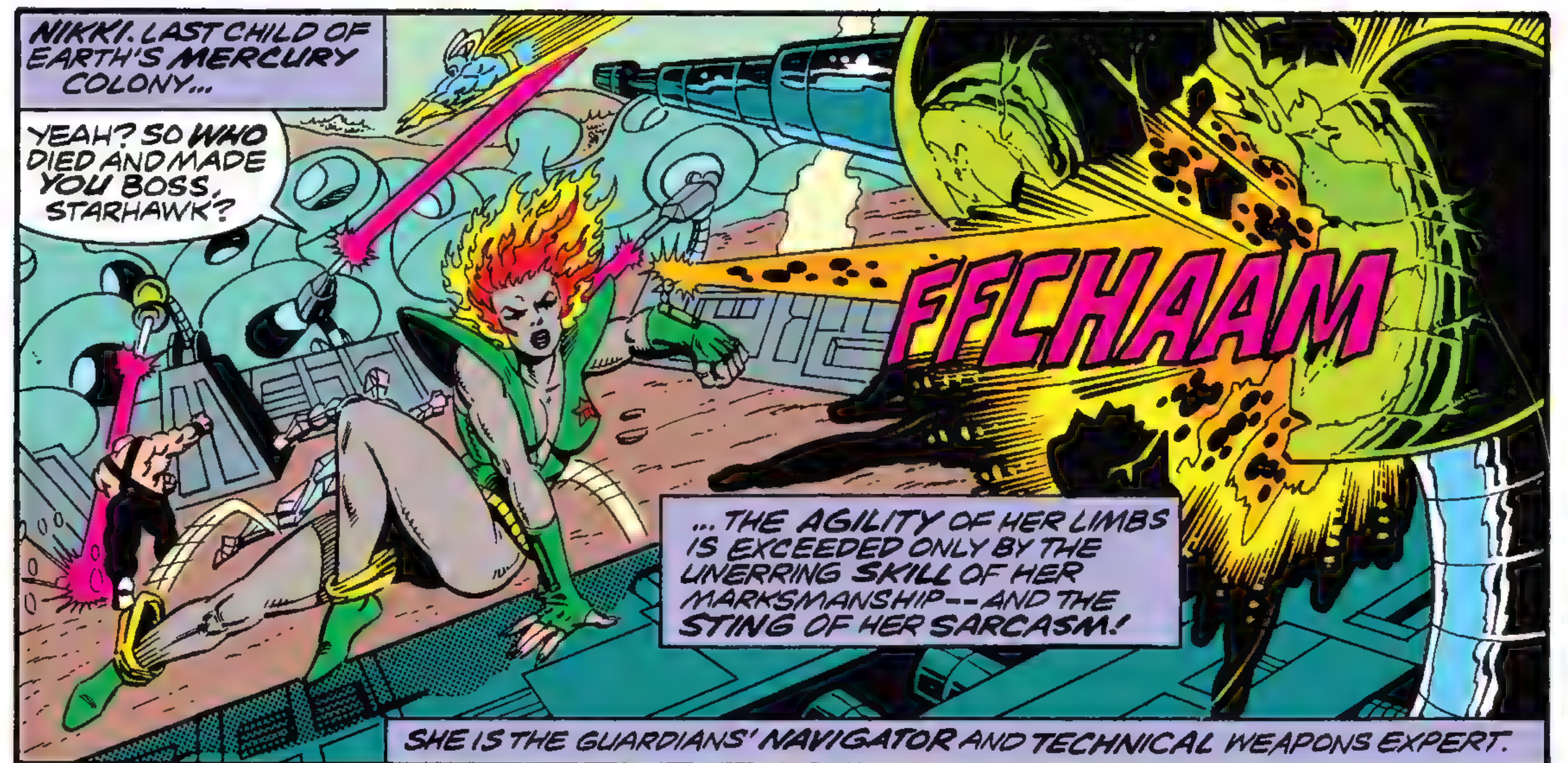
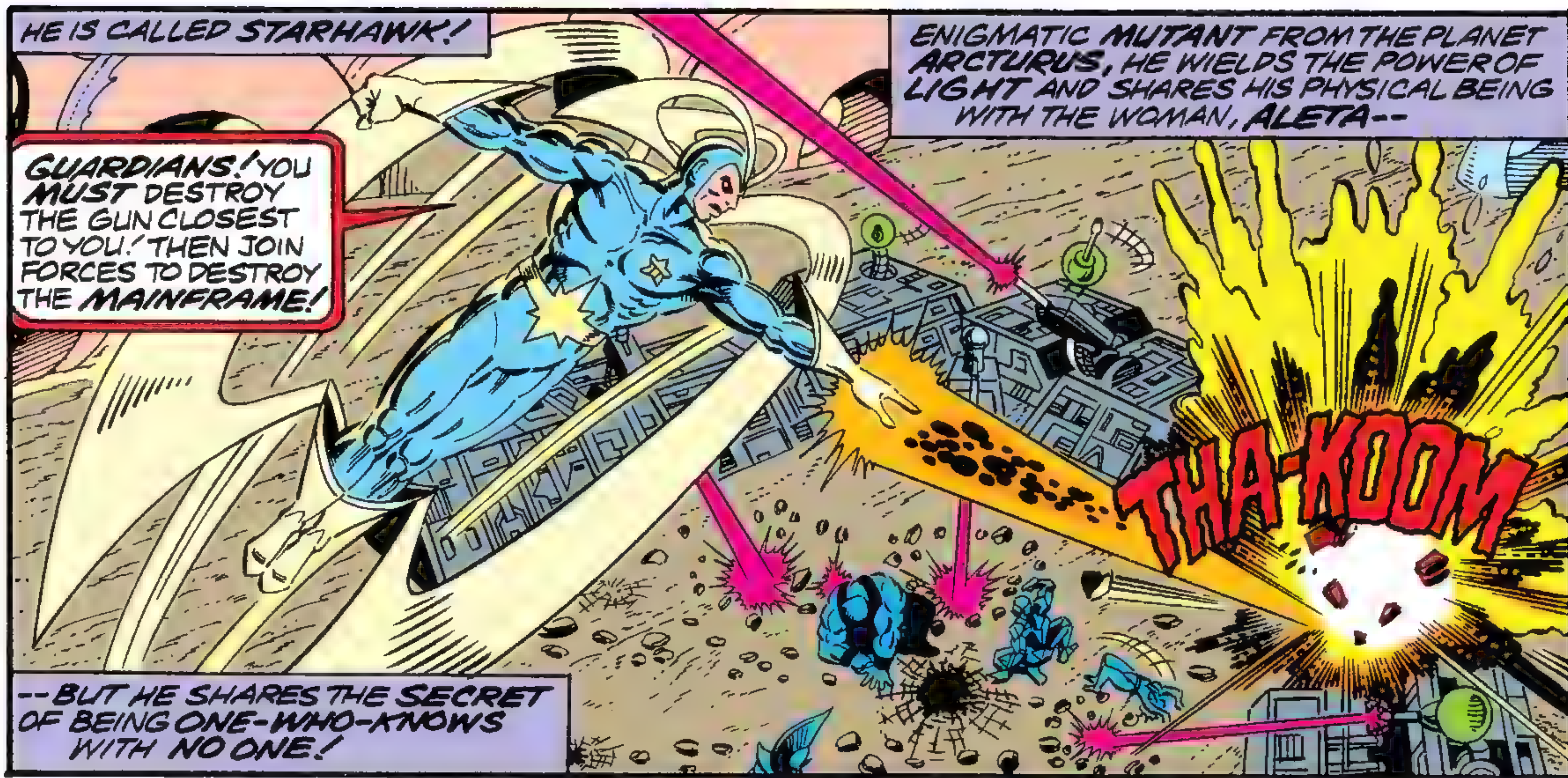
THE GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY WERE NOT  
EXPECTING TROUBLE  
WHEN THEY ARRIVED  
HERE BUT...

...TEN SECONDS AGO A  
SOPHISTICATED BANK  
OF GUN TURRETS ROSE  
FROM A BARREN DIRT-  
COVERED GROUND  
AND BEGAN FIRING!

THE GUARDIANS WERE  
CAUGHT UNAWARES-- IT  
IS NOT A STATE THEY  
WILL REMAIN IN FOR  
VERY LONG!







BUT ARE THEY  
READY FOR...

TASERFACE!

JIM  
VALENTINO  
WRITER/ARTIST

STEVE  
MONTANO  
INKER

KEN  
LOPEZ  
LETTERER

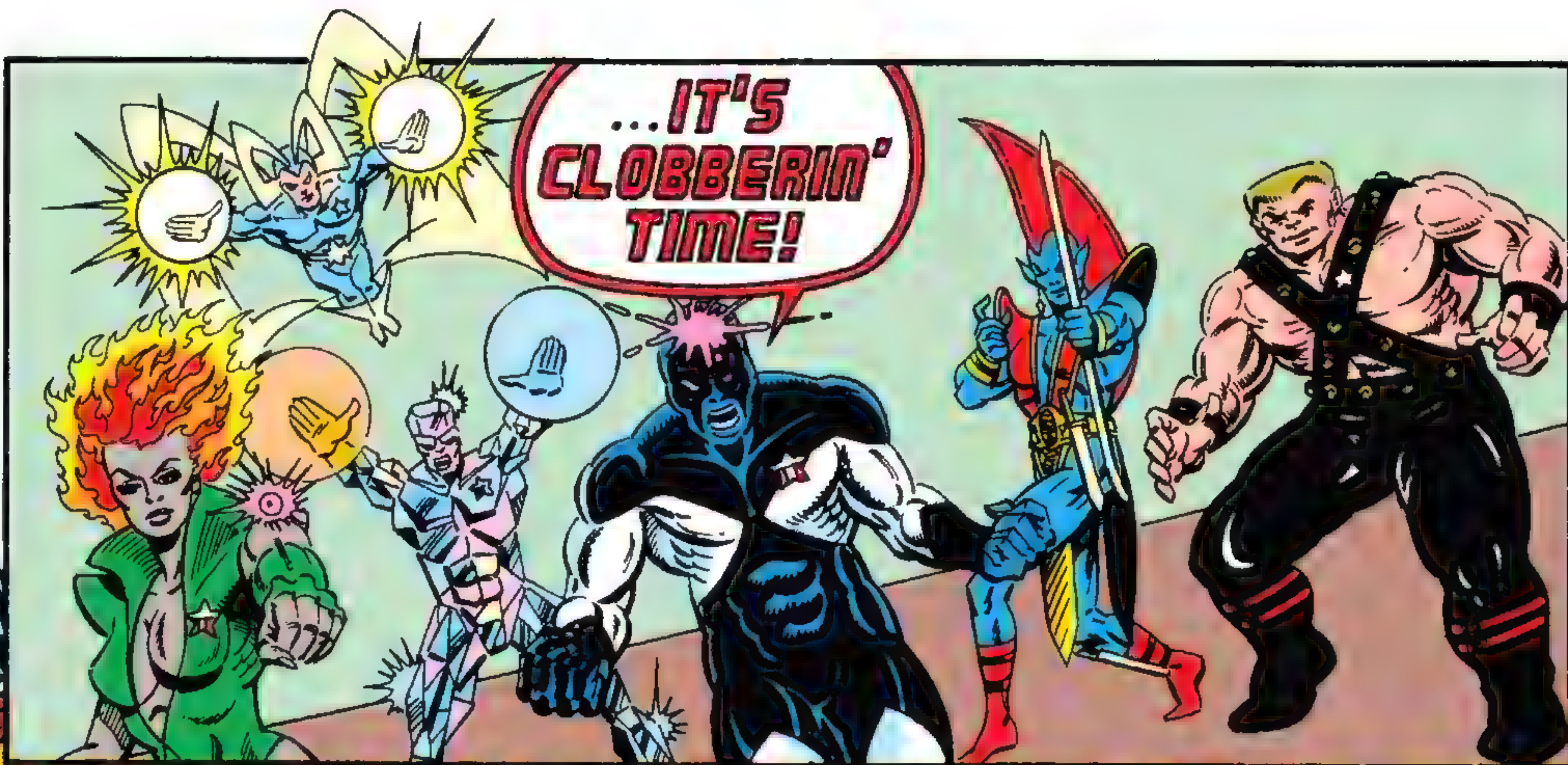
EVELYN  
STEIN  
COLORIST

CRAIG  
ANDERSON  
EDITOR

TOM  
DEFALCO  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

TASERFACE  
CREATED BY  
AARON  
VALENTINO





THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY STRIKE AS ONE...

KA-BOOM

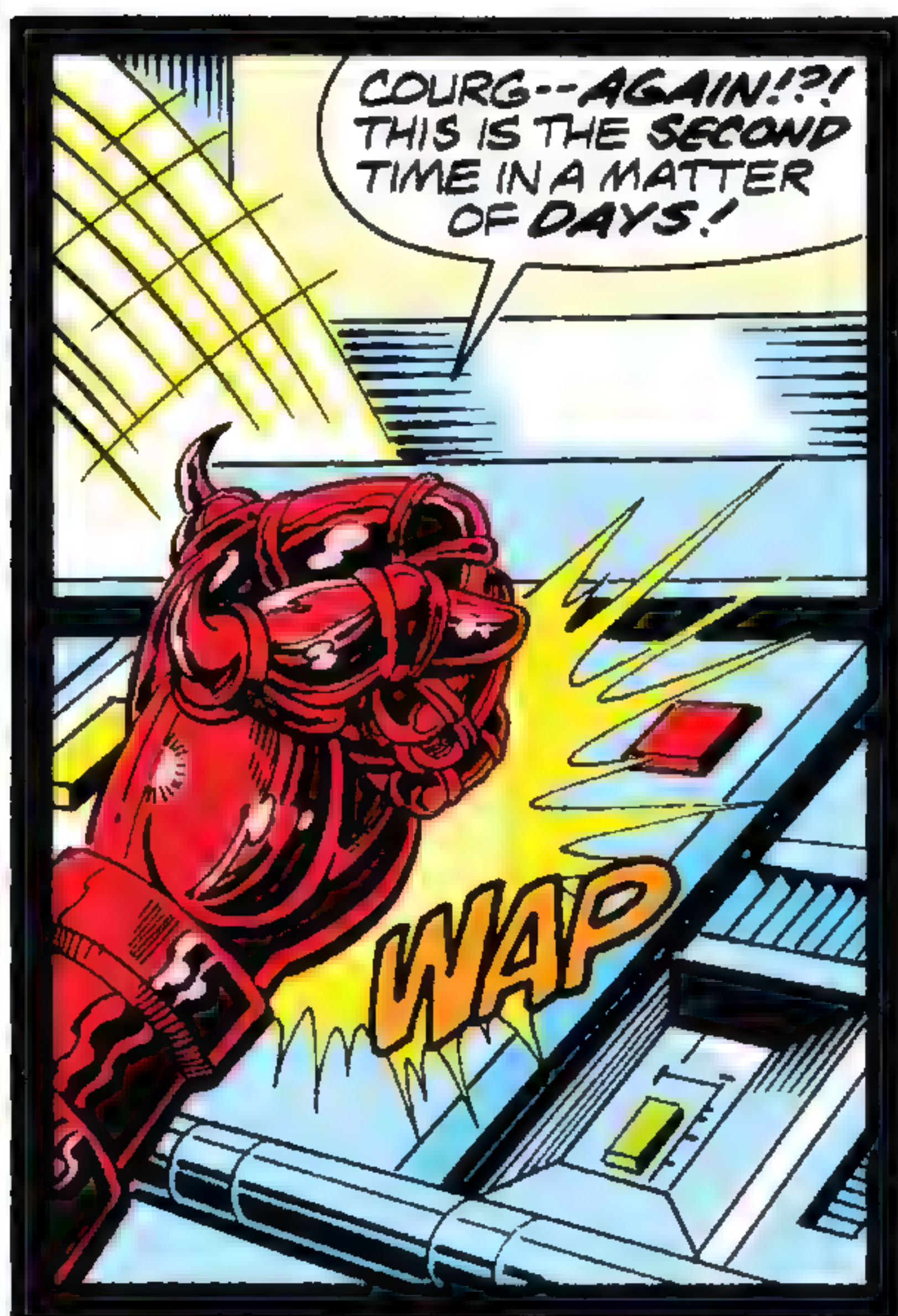
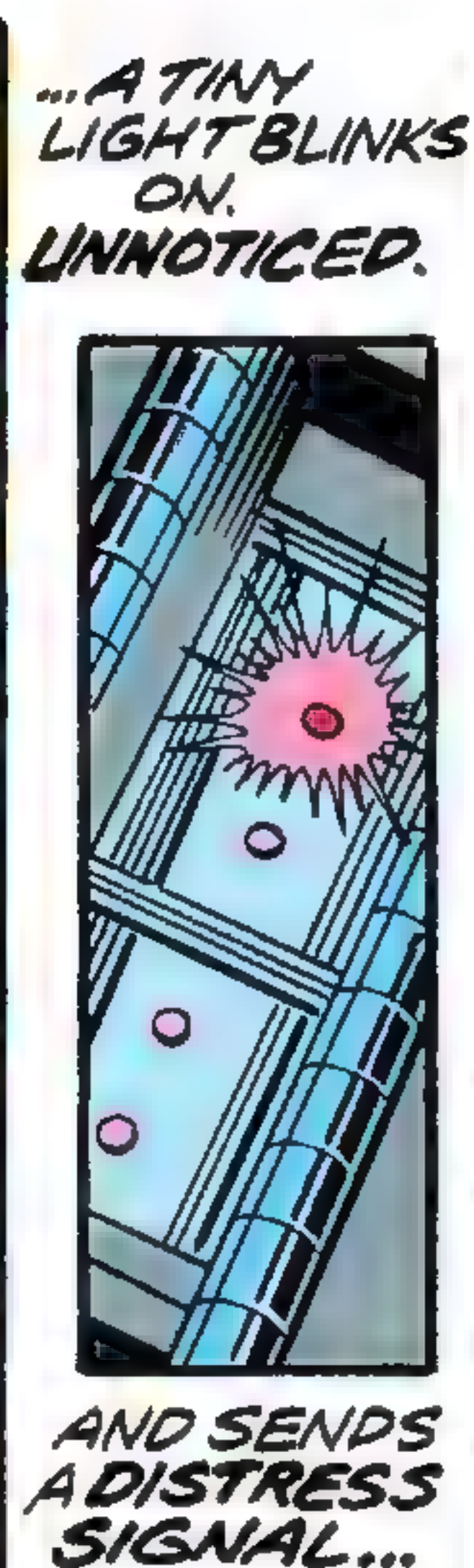
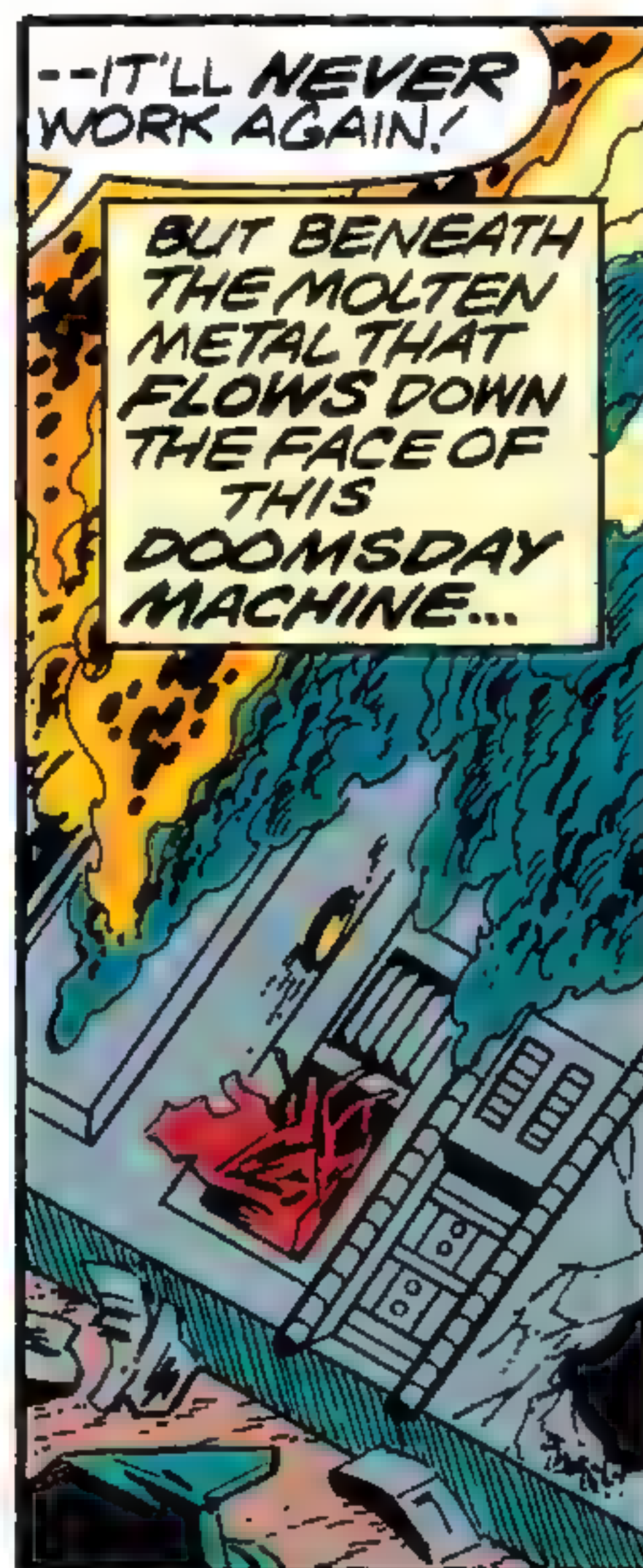
...AND THE MACHINE WHICH MOMENTS AGO, THREATENED THEIR LIVES...

...IS REDUCED TO SO MUCH SLAG AND DEBRIS!

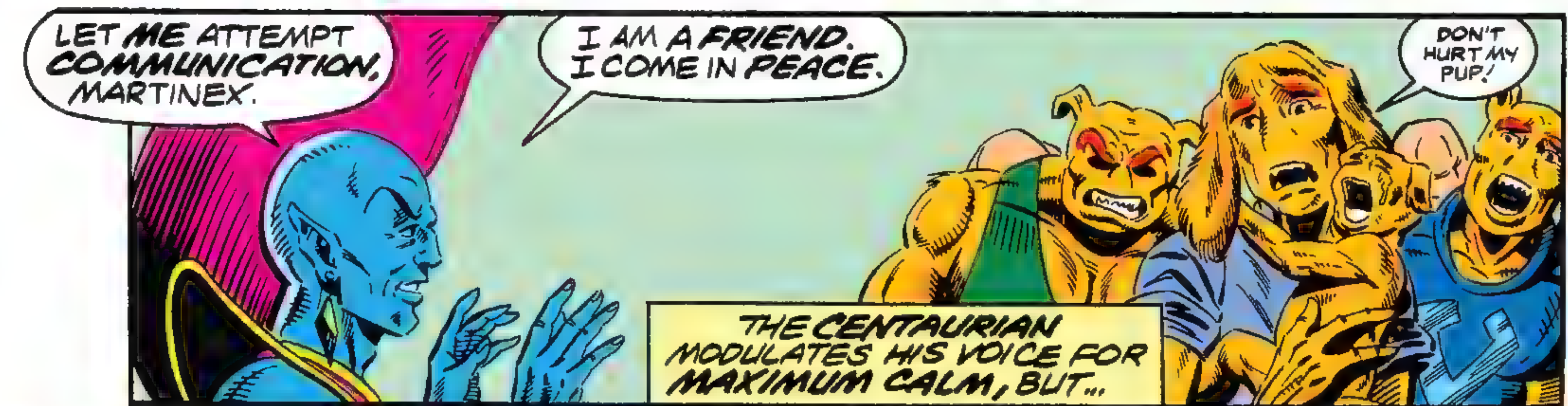
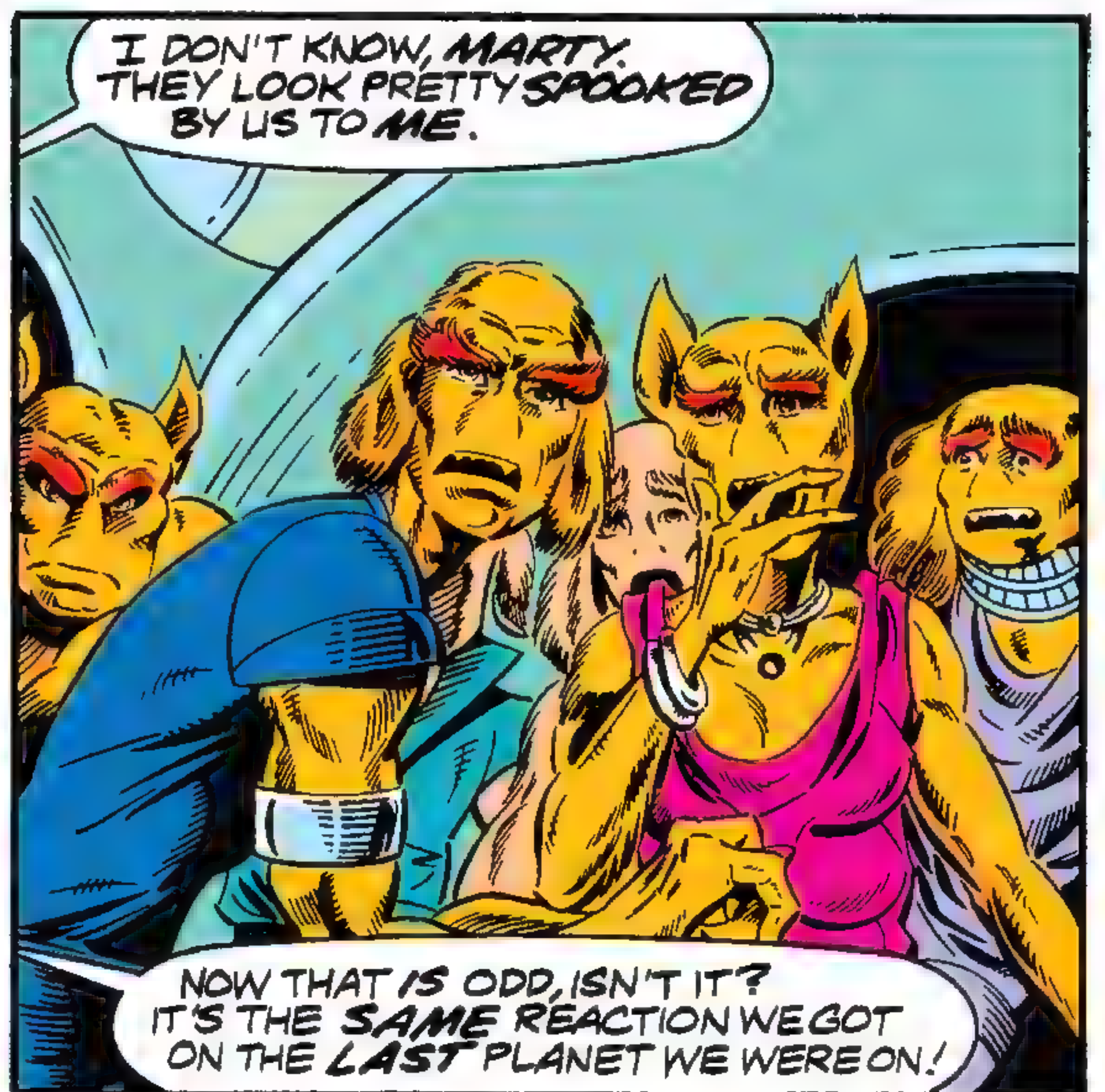
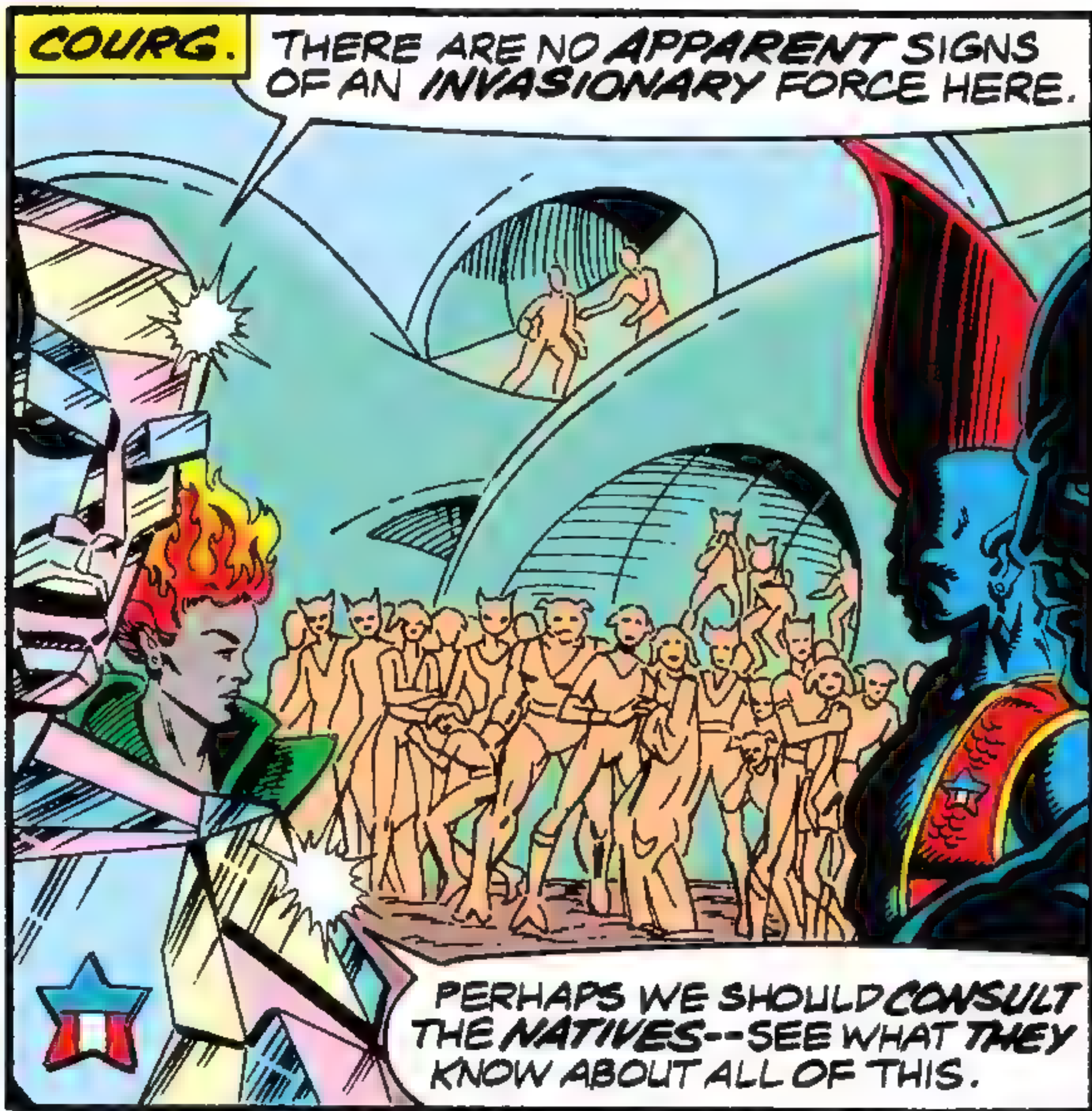
WOW! WHAT WAS THAT? ANY IDEAS, MARTY?

NO, CHARLIE. I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE DESIGN.

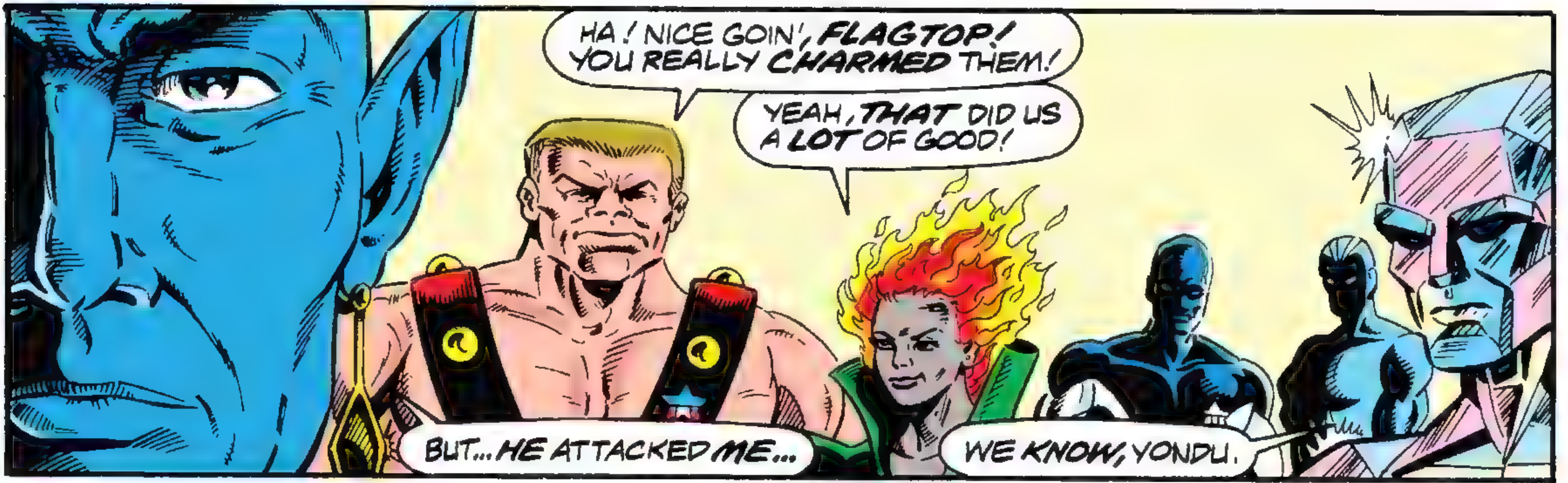












HA! NICE GOIN', FLAGTOP!  
YOU REALLY CHARMED THEM!

YEAH, THAT DID US  
A LOT OF GOOD!

BUT... HE ATTACKED ME...

WE KNOW, YONDU.

LOOK, IT'S OBVIOUS WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET  
ANY INFORMATION OUT OF THEM. I'M GOING TO  
BEAM UP TO THE SHIP AND DOUBLE-CHECK OUR  
COORDINATES...

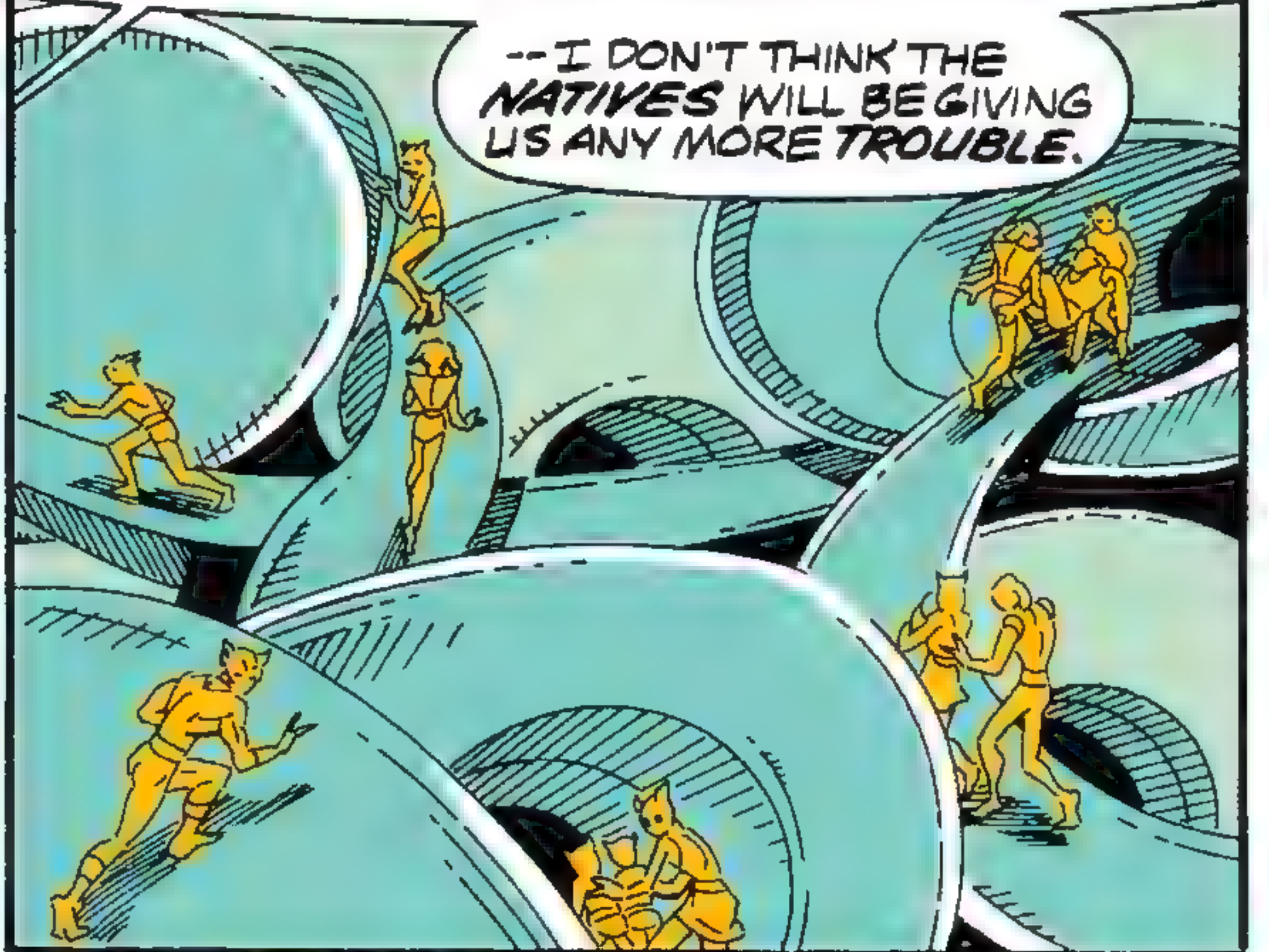
...MAKE SURE  
WE'RE IN THE  
RIGHT PLACE  
FOR THIS  
"CLUE."

FINE, MARTY.



WE'LL STAY DOWN HERE AND LOOK AROUND A  
LITTLE, SEE IF WE CAN'T COME UP WITH ANYTHING--

--I DON'T THINK THE  
NATIVES WILL BE GIVING  
US ANY MORE TROUBLE.



MARTINEX, WAIT! I  
SHALL ACCOMPANY YOU.

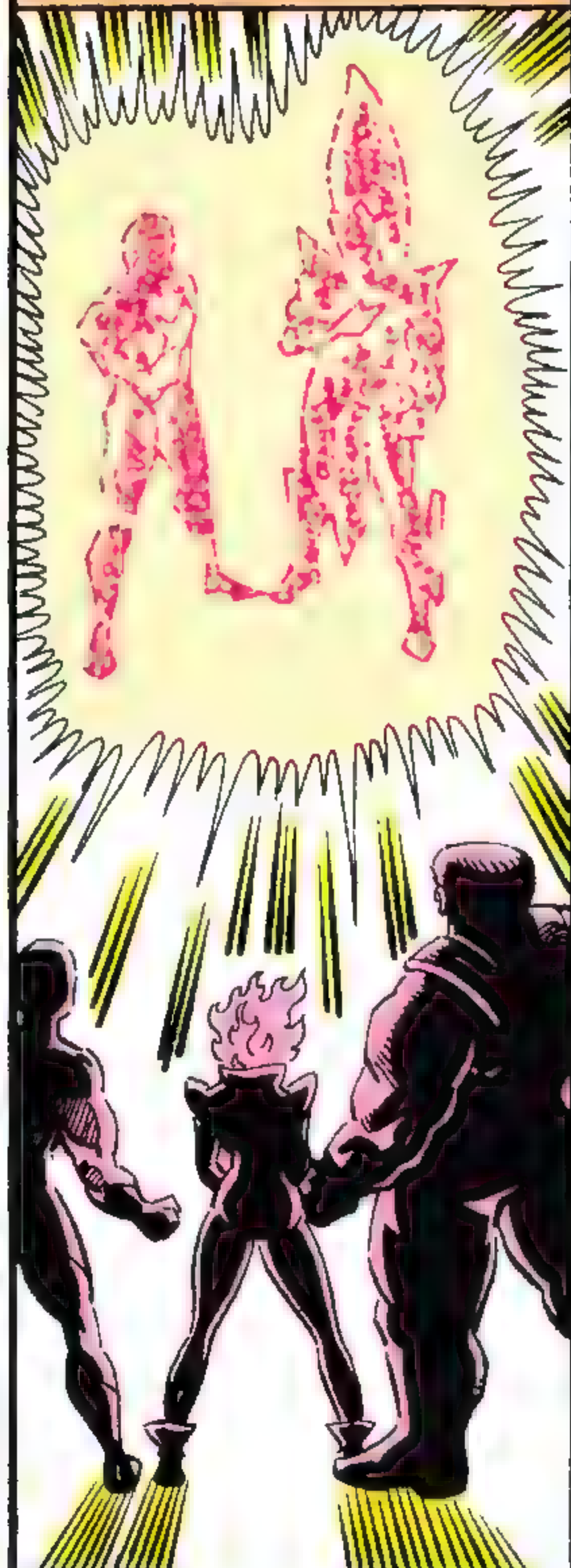
I MUST COMMUNE  
WITH ANTHOS. I  
AM... TROUBLED.

ALL RIGHT,  
YONDU, BUT IF  
IT'S ANY  
CONSOLATION  
TO YOU...

...THIS  
WHOLE THING  
TROUBLES ME!



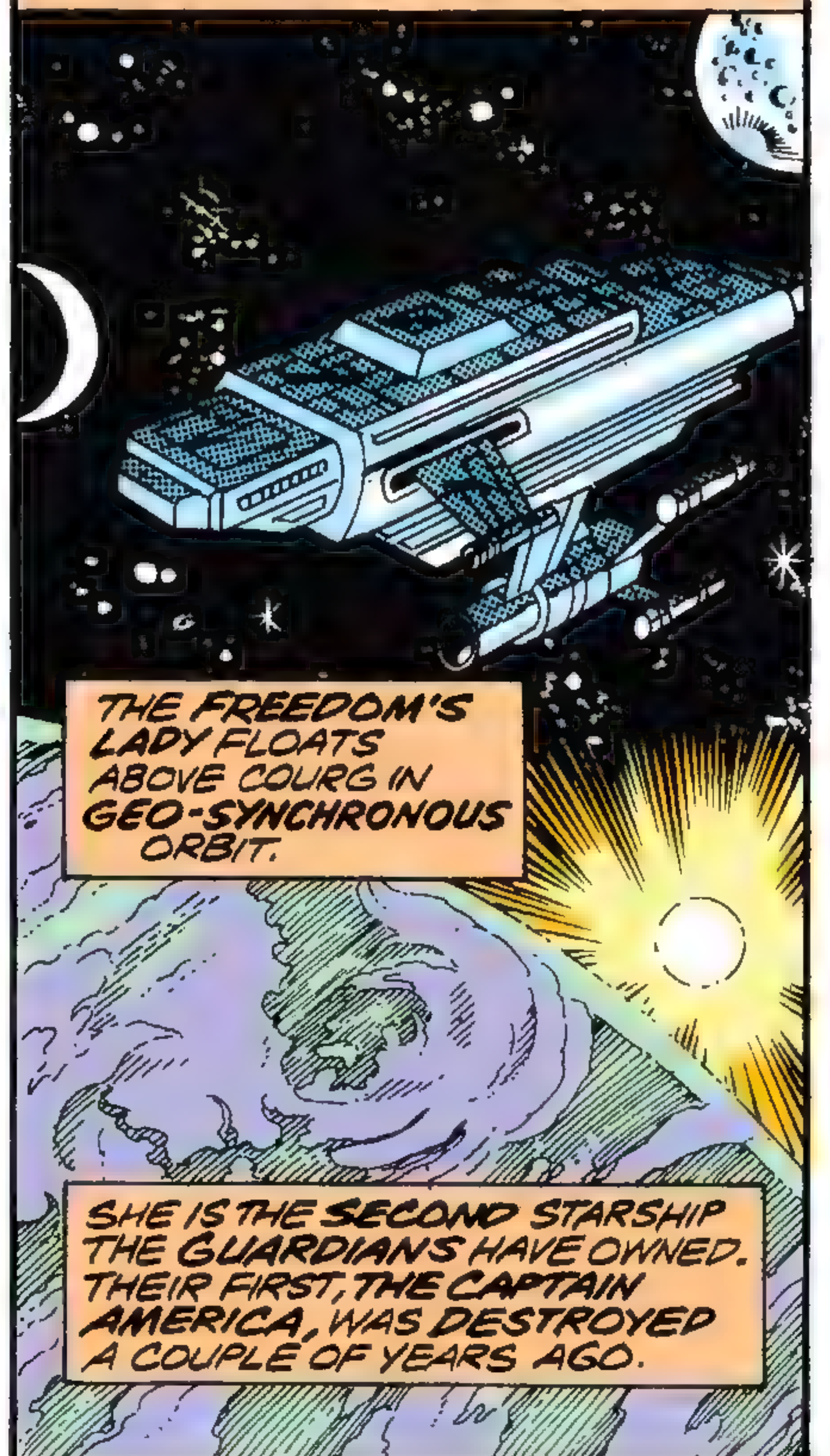
THEY PRESS THE  
STARS UPON THEIR  
CHESTS AND THEIR  
ATOMS SEPARATE  
INTO LIGHT RAYS...



... ONLY TO REASSEMBLE SECONDS  
LATER IN THEIR NATURAL FORMS  
ON THE BRIDGE OF THEIR STARSHIP.

THE FREEDOM'S  
LADY FLOATS  
ABOVE COURG IN  
GEO-SYNCHRONOUS  
ORBIT.

SHE IS THE SECOND STARSHIP  
THE GUARDIANS HAVE OWNED.  
THEIR FIRST, THE CAPTAIN  
AMERICA, WAS DESTROYED  
A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO.





**PLANETSIDE.**

Y'KNOW, I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEIR REACTION TO YONDU. IT WAS ALMOST AS IF THEY'D SEEN HIM BEFORE!

OR SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE HIM!

YEAH? WELL YOU GUYS GO FIGURE IT OUT--

--I'M GOING TO HUNT FOR THAT CLUE--I WANT THAT SHIELD!

SUITS ME, VANCE. I'VE BEEN WAITIN' FOR A CHANCE TO GET NIK ALONE FOR A WHILE NOW!

YOU'RE STILL NOT OVER THE BURNS FROM THE LAST TIME, BIG BOY!

AM I COMPLAININ'?

HEY! WHERE DID STARHAWK GO? I WANT TO ASK HIM SOMETHING.

HE JUST WALKED AWAY FROM US--AS USUAL! HE THINKS HE'S TOO GOOD FOR US, Y'KNOW.

YEAH, WELL I WISH HE'D TURN INTO ALETA PERMANENTLY!

"HER I CAN DEAL WITH!"

YOUR WISH MAY COME TRUE SOONER THAN YOU THINK, CHARLIE-27.

I FEEL THE CHANGE UPON ME. I HAVE KEPT HER IN FAR TOO LONG!

HE CLOSES HIS EYES TO CONCENTRATE...

...AND FEELS THEM MELT WITHIN THEIR SOCKETS!

HIS ATOMS LIQUIFY--FLOWING INTO ONE-ANOTHER...

...AND LIKE A BUTTERFLY IN ITS CHRYSALIS, REARRANGE THEIR CONFIGURATION!

AND WHERE ONCE STARHAWK STOOD, NOW STANDS...

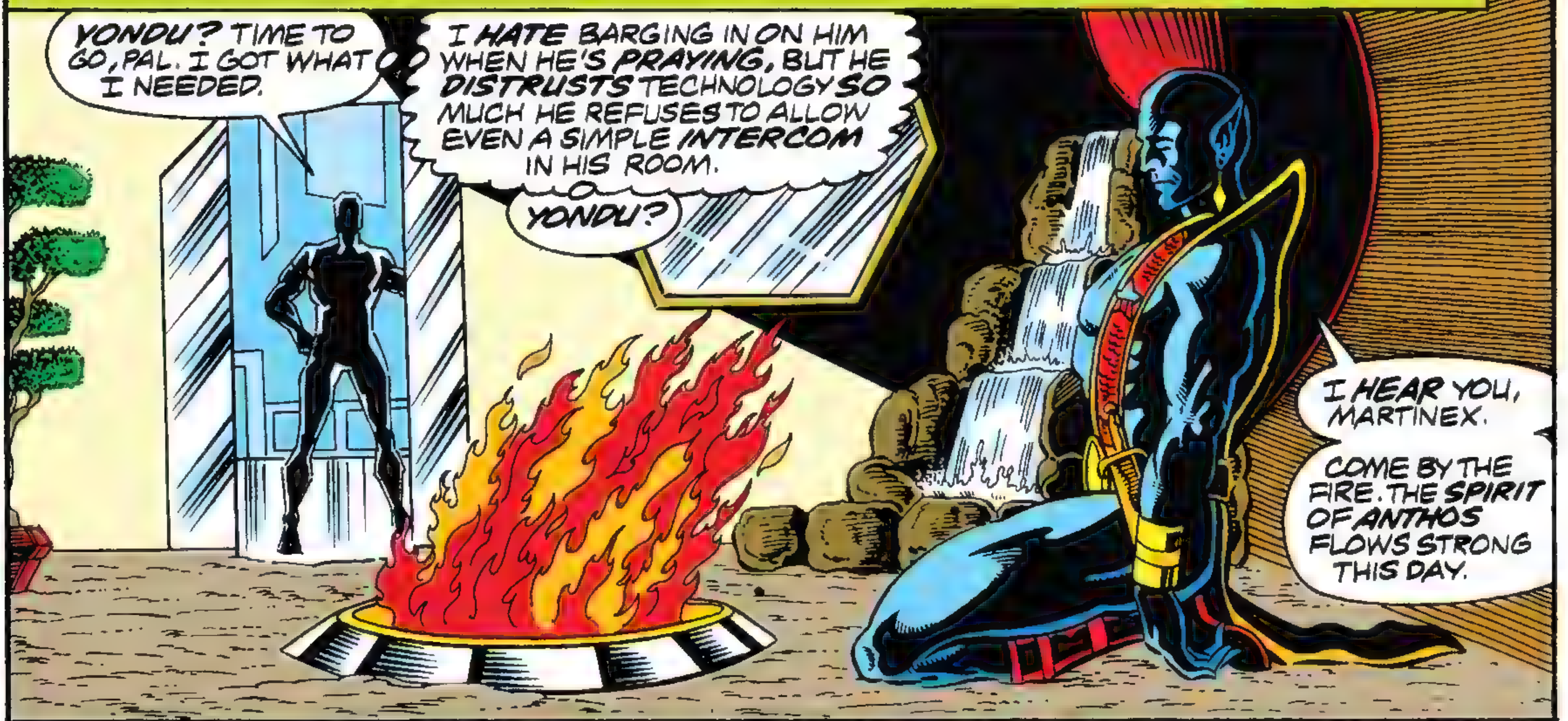
...ALETA!

FREE AGAIN!

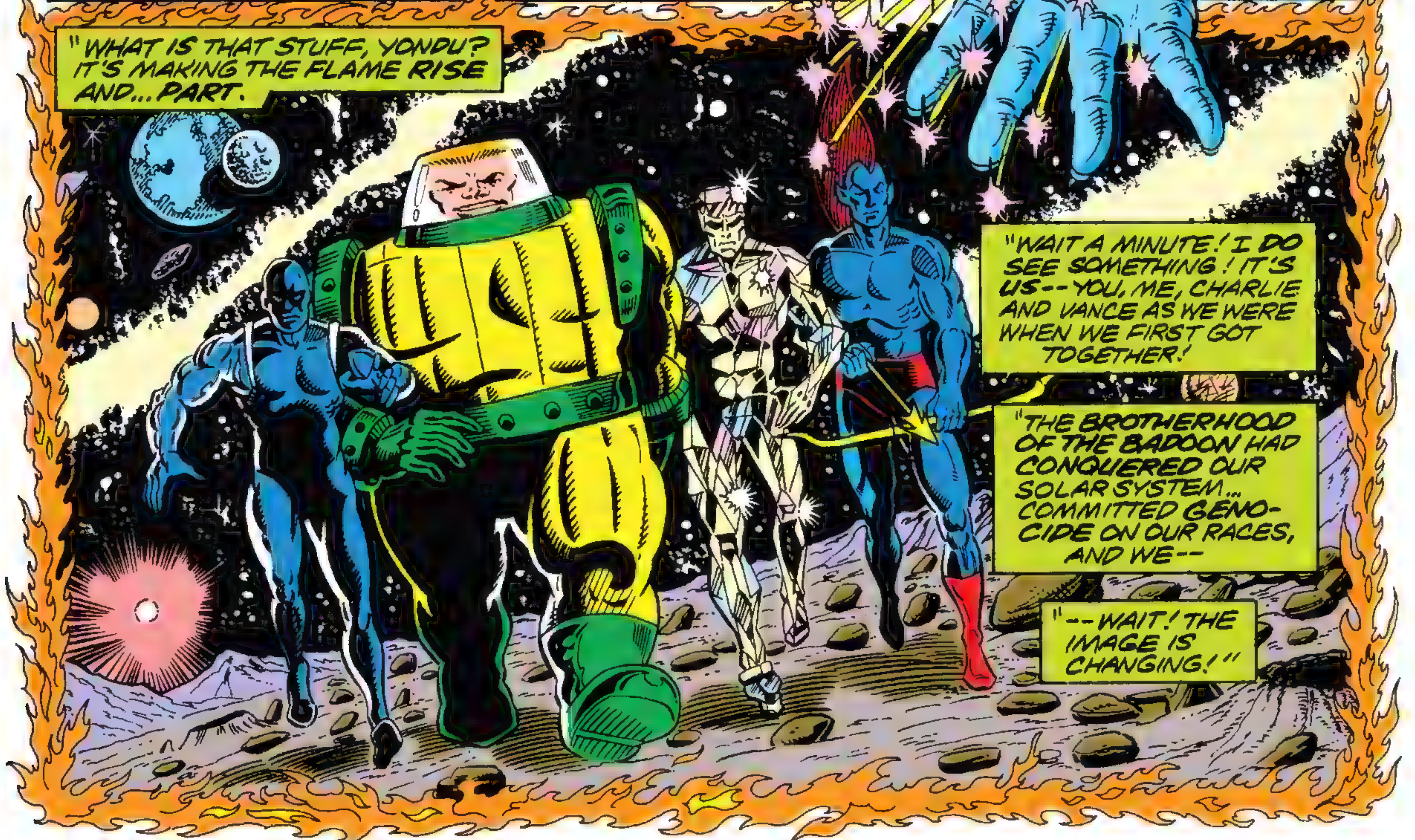
THE AIR FILLS HER LUNGS AND SHE RELISHES ITS SWEET TASTE.



AND AS ALETA GATHERS THE STRENGTH TO MOVE, WE CUT BACK TO THE FREEDOM'S LADY...



"WHAT IS THAT STUFF, YONDU? IT'S MAKING THE FLAME RISE AND... PART."





"THERE WE ARE SEVEN YEARS LATER IN TIMES SQUARE! THAT WAS OUR FIRST MAJOR VICTORY AGAINST THE BADOON!"

"THE THING AND THE LEGENDARY CAPTAIN AMERICA CAME INTO OUR ERA AND HELPED US LIBERATE NEW YORK CITY!"

"CAPTAIN AMERICA'S APPEARANCE INSPIRED THE RESISTANCE-- INSPIRED US ALL, IN FACT! I CAN SEE WHY WANCE ADMIRES HIM SO!"

"NOW WE'RE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE DEFENDERS!"

"... AND THE SISTERHOOD OF THE BADOON! I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT DAY WHEN THEY TOOK THEIR MALE COUNTERPARTS OFF THE EARTH!"

"WE BROUGHT THEM BACK WITH US FROM OUR FIRST TRIP TO THE 20TH CENTURY!"

"... SO WE RETURNED TO SPACE!"

"THE WAR WAS OVER, BUT WE SOON FOUND CIVILIAN LIFE WAS NO LONGER FOR US..."

"IT WASN'T TOO MUCH LATER THAT WE FOUND NIKKI!"

STOP RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE--OR I'LL BLAST YOUR ATOMS FROM HERE TO ANTARES!

"THAT WAS ALSO WHEN WE DISCOVERED THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STARHAWK AND ALETA!"

"IT WAS THEN THAT WE MET STARHAWK..."



"NOW I'M SEEING THE DEATHS OF STARHAWK AND ALETA'S CHILDREN!"

"IT WAS HORRIFYING! THEY CRUMBLLED TO DUST RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!"

"IT'S SHIFTING AGAIN--NOW WE'RE BATTLING KORVAC AND HIS MINIONS OF MENACE ALONGSIDE THOR!"

"WE DIDN'T SEE ALETA FOR A LONG TIME AFTER THAT--AND SHE NEVER FORGAVE STARHAWK FOR NOT SAVING THEM!"

"THE NORSE THUNDER GOD ACCIDENTALLY CAME INTO OUR ERA FROM THE 20TH CENTURY..."

"...LITTLE DID ANY OF US KNOW THEN THAT WE'D SOON BE JOINING HIM AND HIS FELLOW AVENGERS IN HIS OWN ERA--TO BATTLE THE NEO-GOD KORVAC HAD BECOME!"

"HE CALLED HIMSELF MICHAEL--THE ENEMY..."

"...AND NOT EVEN ALL OF OUR COMBINED POWER WAS ENOUGH TO DEFEAT HIM! ONLY THE BETRAYAL OF LOVE COULD DO THAT!"



"THERE'S NIKKI, STARHAWK, AND ME WITH SPIDER-MAN!"

"AND THIS MUST BE WHEN STARHAWK LEFT US FOR A WHILE TO TRY AND RESURRECT ADAM WARLOCK..."

"WE WERE TRYING TO COVER UP ANY EVIDENCE OF OUR BEING IN THAT ERA, AS I RECALL."

"...BUT NOT EVEN THE POWER OF HER WAS ABLE TO PERFORM THAT MIRACLE!"

"AND NOW WE WERE IN SAUGERTIES, NEW YORK. VANCE HAD RETURNED TO HIS BOYHOOD HOME TO TRY AND TALK HIS YOUNGER COUNTERPART OUT OF BECOMING AN ASTRONAUT, AND THEREBY CHANGING HIS OWN DESTINY."

"HE DIDN'T, OF COURSE."

"AND THERE WE ARE FINALLY RETURNING TO THE 31<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY!"

"WE TALKED ABOUT GOING OUR SEPARATE WAYS..."

"...BUT AFTER ALL WE'D BEEN THROUGH TOGETHER, WE WERE LIKE A FAMILY--"

"--A FAMILY OF ORPHANS."

"HE ONLY AWOKE THE BOY'S LATENT PSYCHO-KINESIS POWER..."

"...AND CREATED AN ALTERNATE REALITY IN THE PROCESS!"

"WE DECIDED TO STAY TOGETHER."

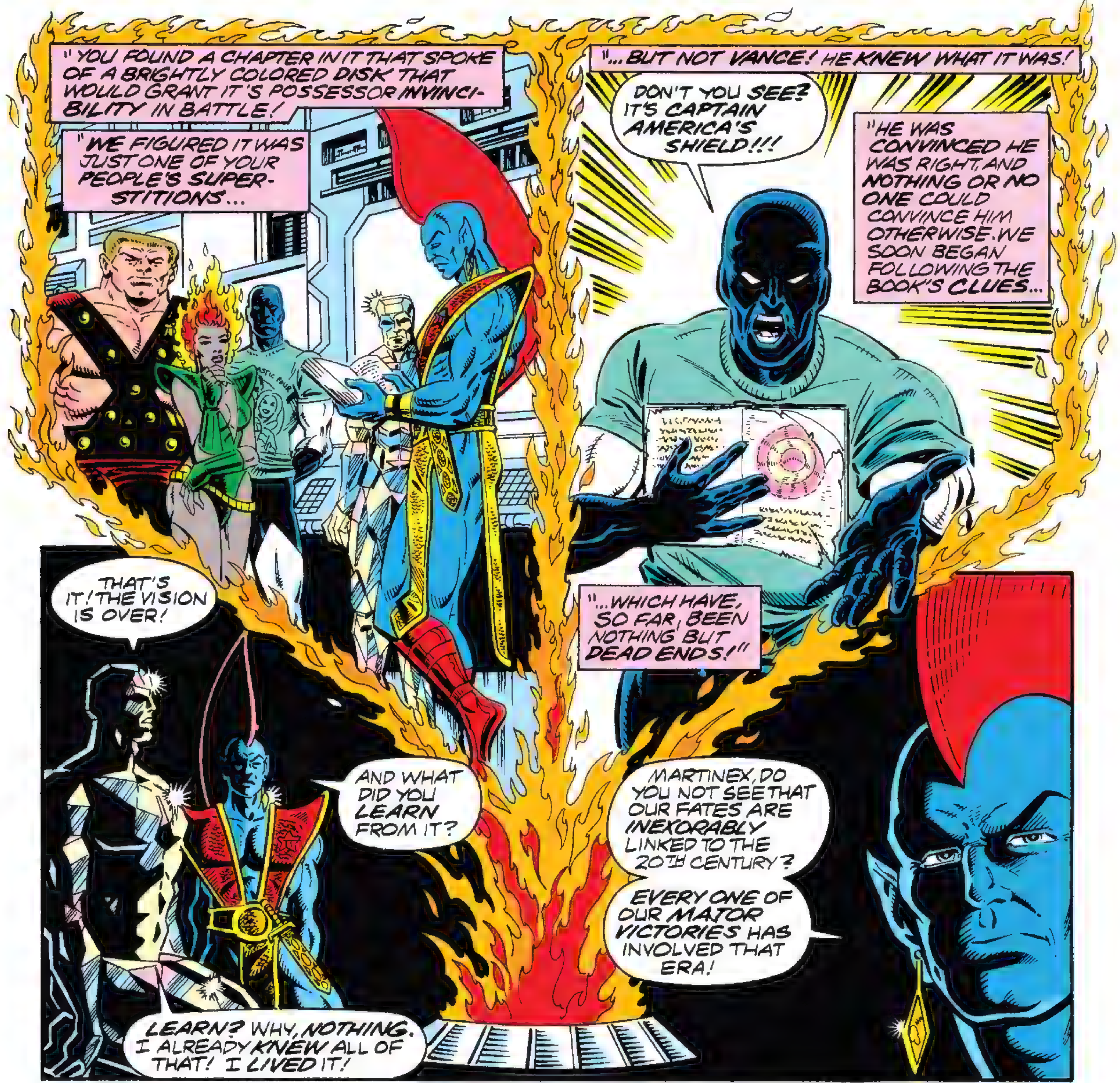
"AND THAT'S WHEN YOU FOUND YOUR WORLD'S BOOK OF ANTAG, YONDLI..."

"I'VE OFTEN WONDERED WHAT EVER BECAME OF THAT OTHER VANCE ASTRO..."

\* HE BECAME MARVEL BOY AND CAN BE SEEN EVERY MONTH IN THE PAGES OF THE NEW WARRIORS! HOWZAT FOR A SNEAKY PLUG? -- C.A.

\*FOR A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE GUARDIANS' HISTORY, READ THE TEXT PIECE IN THIS AND SUBSEQUENT ISSUES. -- ENCYCLOPEDIA CRAIG





"YOU FOUND A CHAPTER IN IT THAT SPOKE OF A BRIGHTLY COLORED DISK THAT WOULD GRANT IT'S POSSESSOR INVINCIBILITY IN BATTLE!"

"WE FIGURED IT WAS JUST ONE OF YOUR PEOPLE'S SUPERSTITIONS..."

"...BUT NOT VANCE! HE KNEW WHAT IT WAS!"

DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SHIELD!!!

"HE WAS CONVINCED HE WAS RIGHT, AND NOTHING OR NO ONE COULD CONVINCE HIM OTHERWISE. WE SOON BEGAN FOLLOWING THE BOOK'S CLUES..."

THAT'S IT! THE VISION IS OVER!

"...WHICH HAVE, SO FAR, BEEN NOTHING BUT DEAD ENDS!"

AND WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM IT?

MARTINEX, DO YOU NOT SEE THAT OUR FATES ARE INEXORABLY LINKED TO THE 20TH CENTURY?

EVERY ONE OF OUR MAJOR VICTORIES HAS INVOLVED THAT ERA!

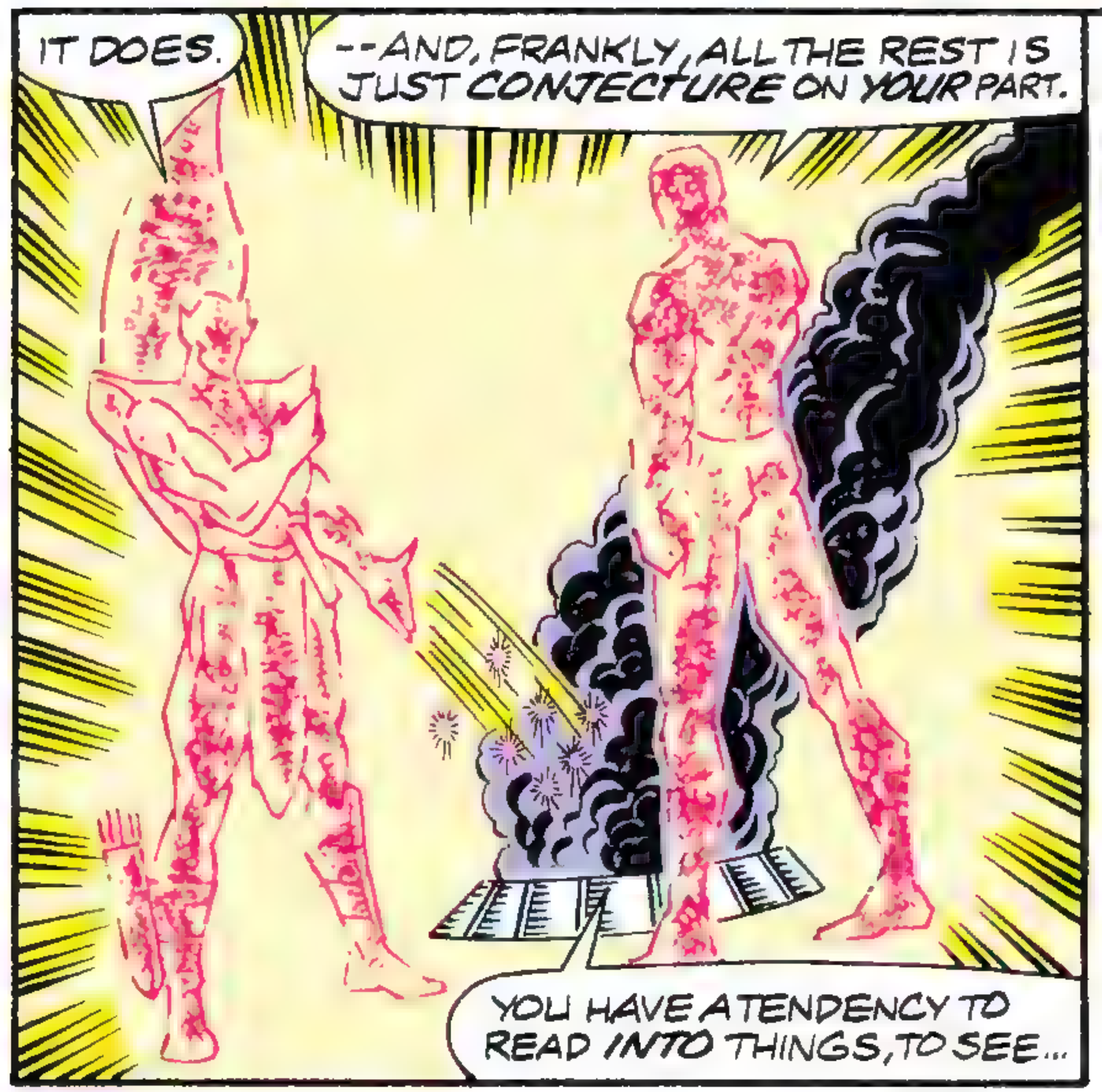
LEARN? WHY, NOTHING. I ALREADY KNEW ALL OF THAT! I LIVED IT!



NO. I DON'T SEE THAT AT ALL.

YET IT IS SO. CAPTAIN AMERICA, THE THING, THE AVENGERS--AND NOW THE SHIELD.

OH, COME ON, YONDU. WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THE SHIELD STILL EXISTS--

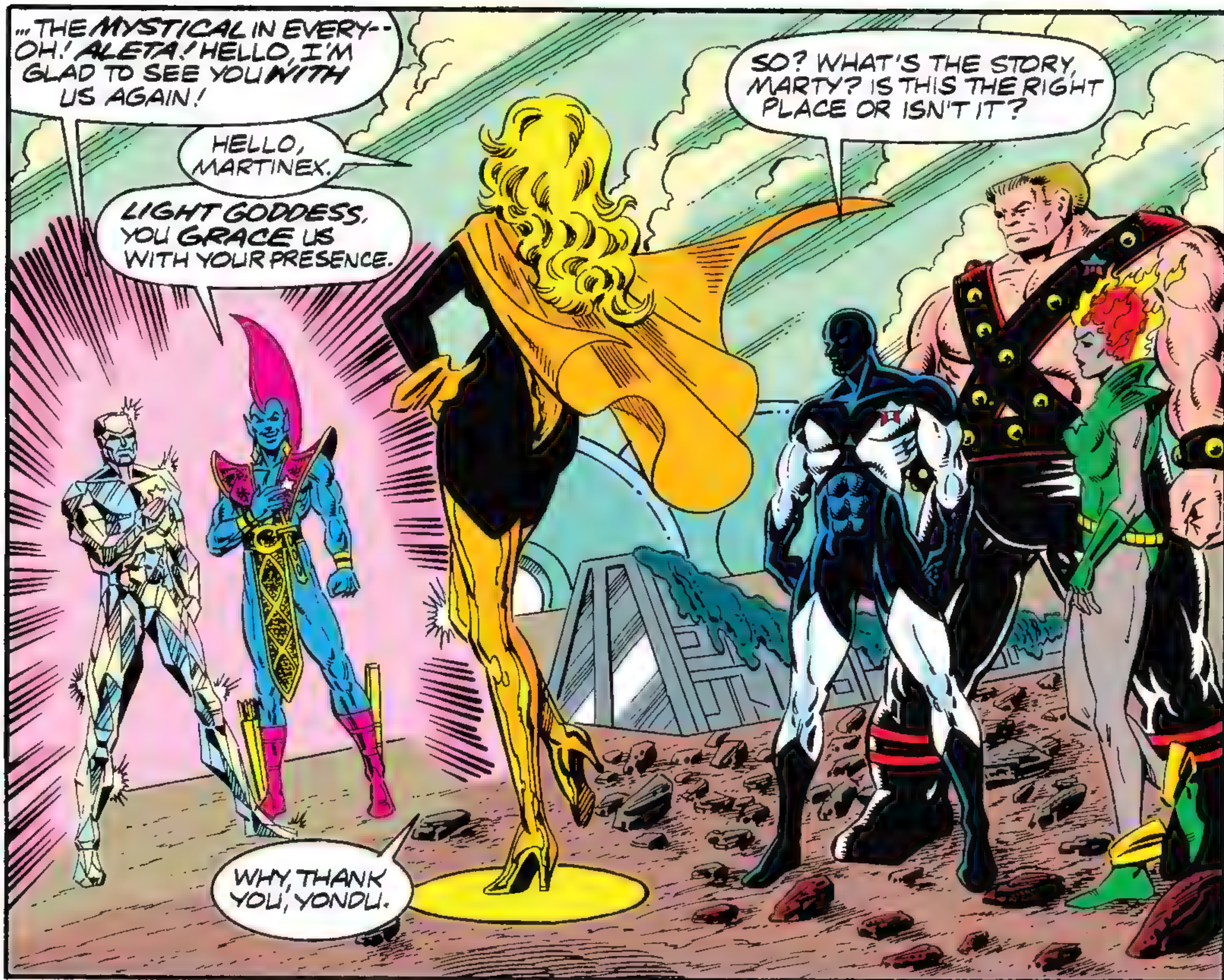


IT DOES.

--AND, FRANKLY, ALL THE REST IS JUST CONJECTURE ON YOUR PART.

YOU HAVE A TENDENCY TO READ INTO THINGS, TO SEE...





...THE MYSTICAL IN EVERY--  
OH! ALETA! HELLO, I'M  
GLAD TO SEE YOU WITH  
US AGAIN!

HELLO,  
MARTINEX.

LIGHT GODDESS,  
YOU GRACE US  
WITH YOUR PRESENCE.

SO? WHAT'S THE STORY,  
MARTY? IS THIS THE RIGHT  
PLACE OR ISN'T IT?

WHY, THANK  
YOU, YONDU.



IT'S THE CORRECT  
SPOT, VANCE. THERE  
CAN BE NO DOUBT  
ABOUT THAT...

...BUT, ONCE AGAIN,  
THERE'S NO TRACE OF  
THE CLUE WE WERE  
SUPPOSED TO FIND  
HERE.

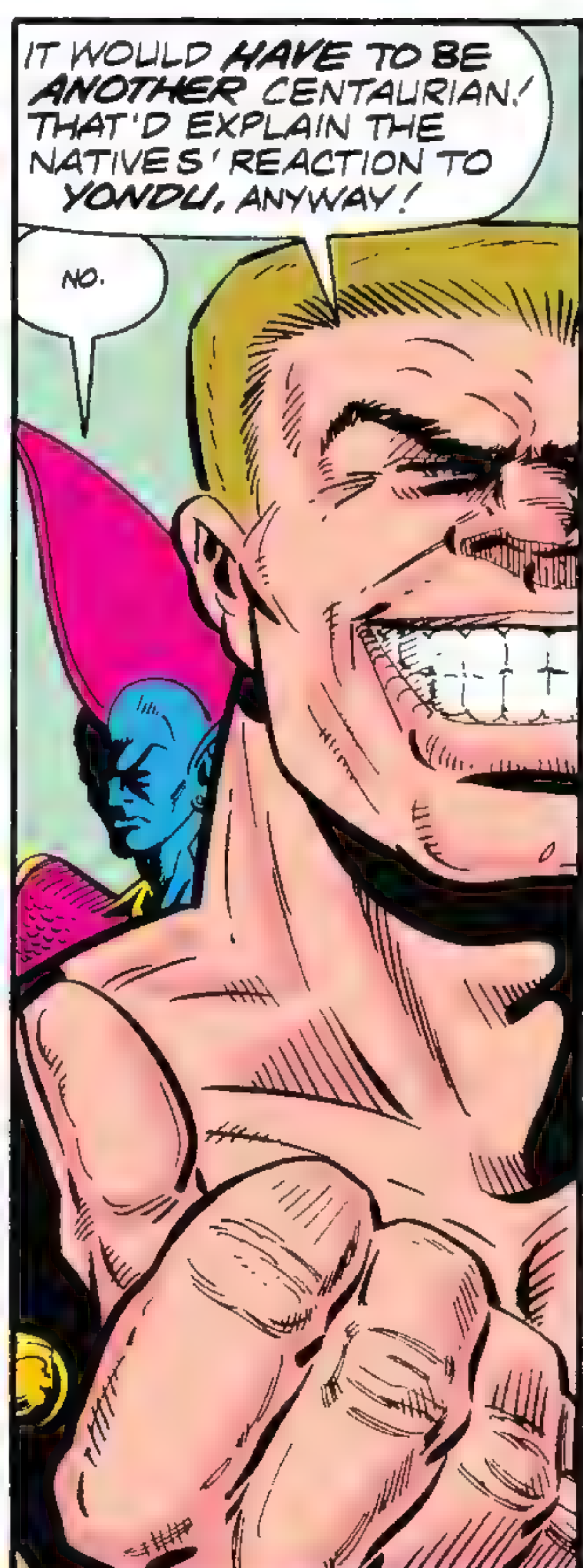
...JUST LIKE ALL THE  
OTHER WORLDS WE'VE  
BEEN ON! IF YOU ASK  
ME--



YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW-- YOU  
THINK THIS IS SOME KINDA  
WILD GOOSE CHASE-- BUT  
THERE'S ANOTHER EXPLANATION!

SOMEONE ELSE IS LOOKIN'  
FOR THE SHIELD AND THEY'RE  
ONE STEP AHEAD OF US!

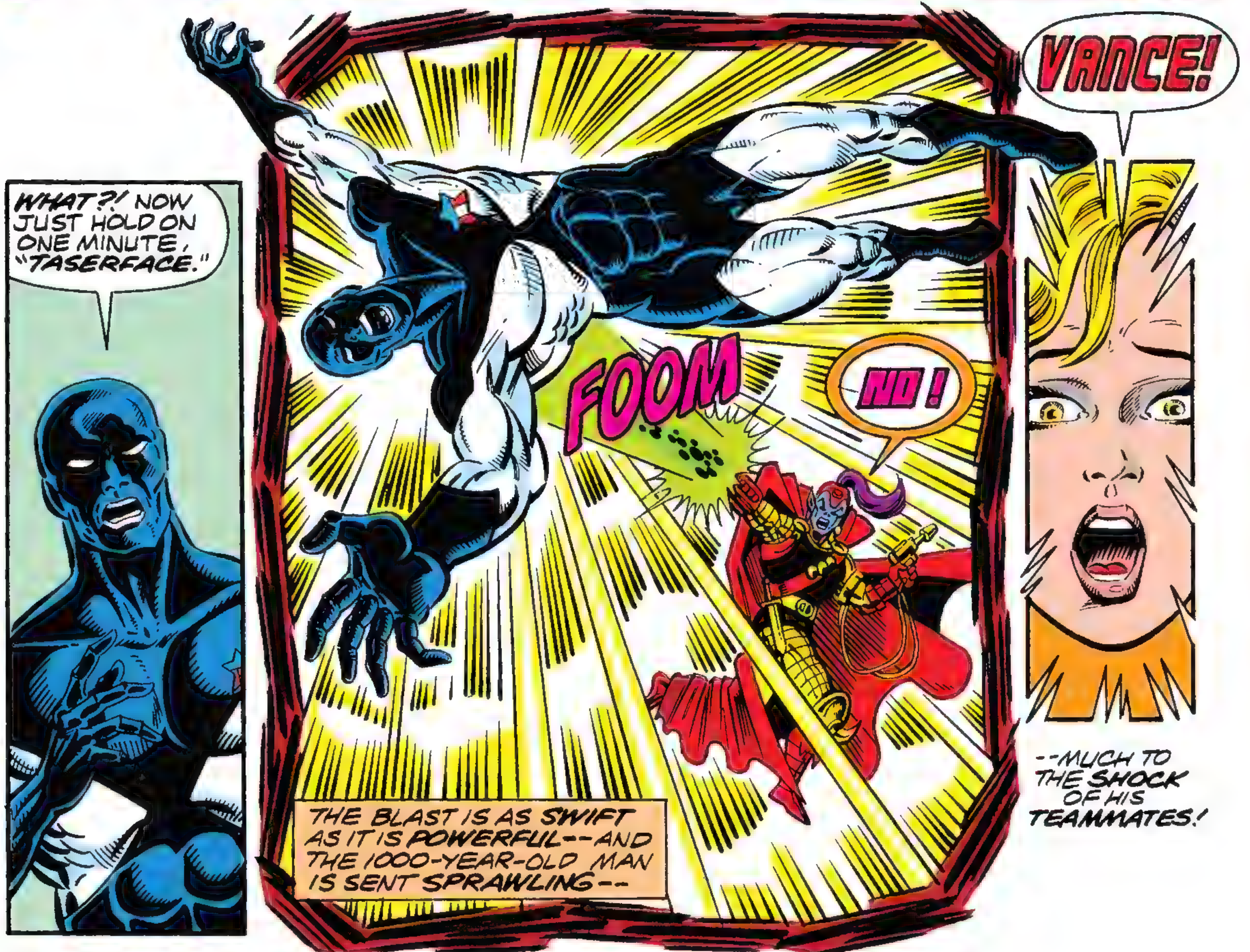
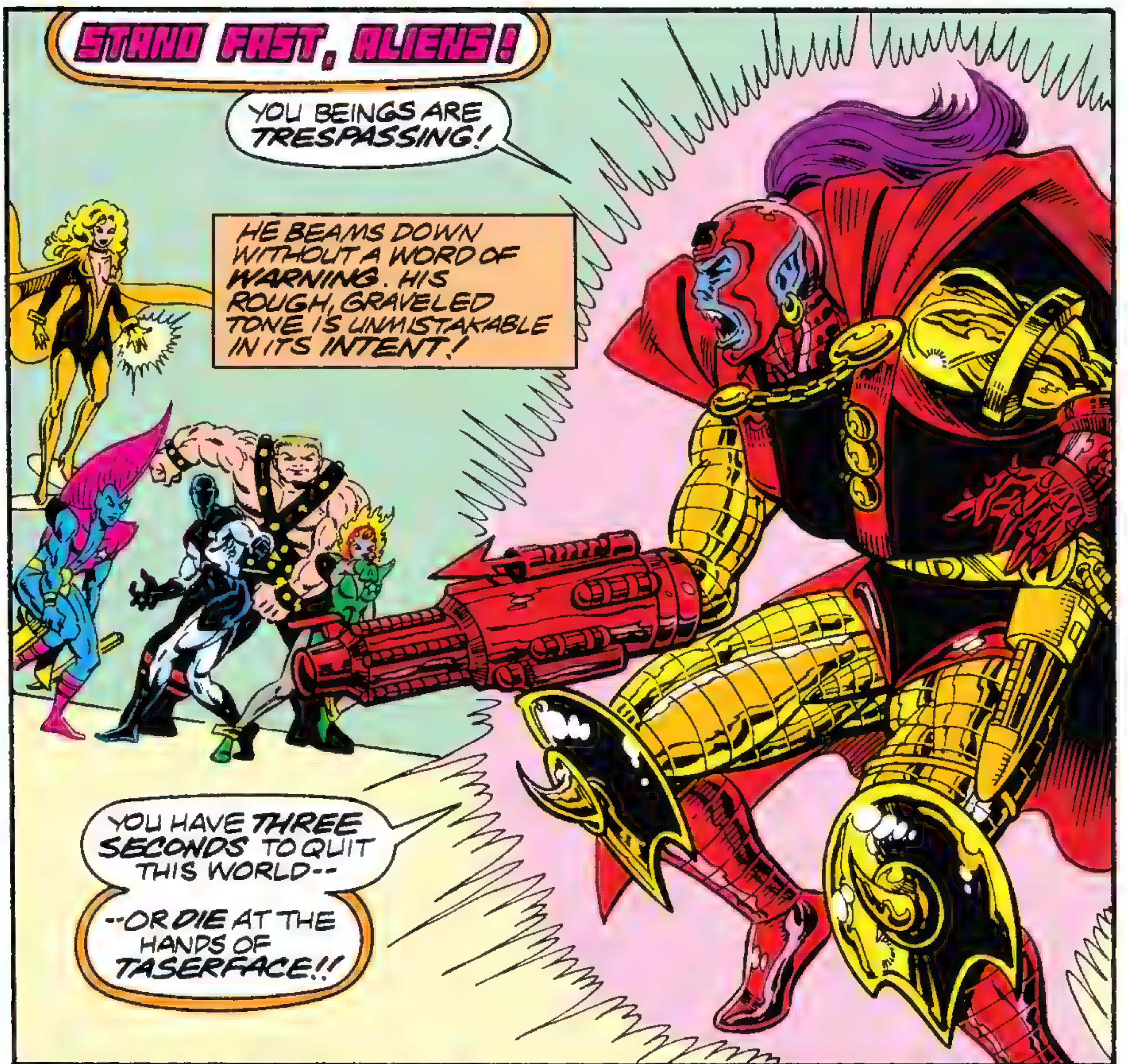
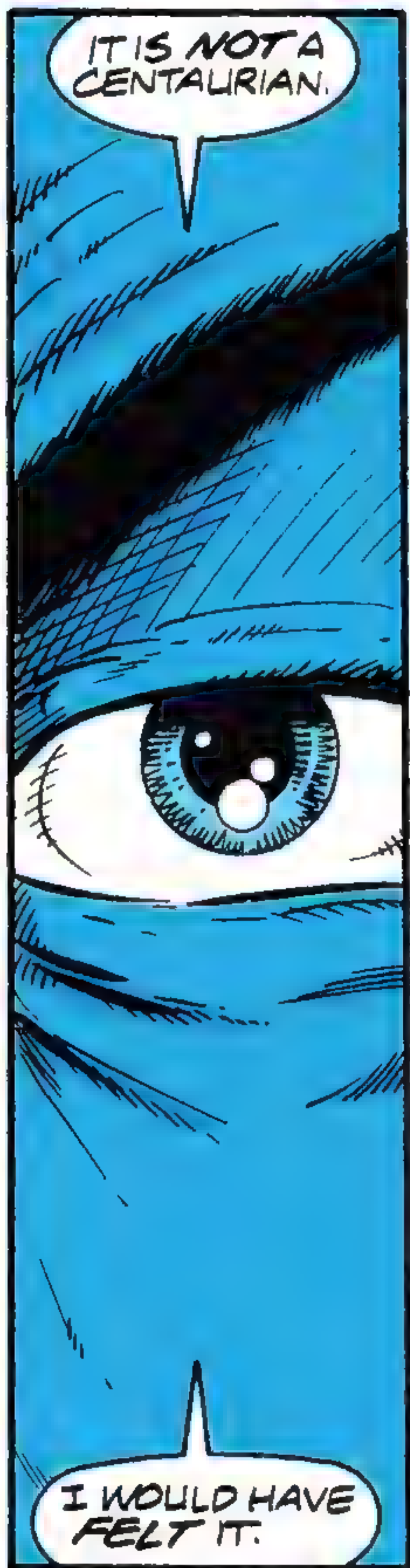
THE REAL QUESTION IS  
WHO-- AND HOW DID  
THEY GET A COPY OF  
THE BOOK?



IT WOULD HAVE TO BE  
ANOTHER CENTAURIAN!  
THAT'D EXPLAIN THE  
NATIVES' REACTION TO  
YONDU, ANYWAY!

NO.







THEY REACT INSTANTANEOUSLY!

ALL RIGHT, PAL, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND I DON'T MUCH CARE...

... BUT YOU JUST BLASTED A GUY WHO WAS TRYING TO MAKE NICE WITH YA...

...WHO, IN A MOVE OF SURPRISING GRACE FOR ONE HIS SIZE...

... AND IN MY BOOK THAT MAKES YOU DEAD MEAT!!

THE FORCE OF CHARLIE 27'S BLOW WOULD SHATTER A SMALL BUILDING! AS IT IS, IT ONLY STAGGERS THE ARMORED ALIEN...

FWHAP

... LANDS ON HIS FEET AND INSTANTLY RETALIATES!

INSTINCTIVELY, YONDU LETS FLY A YAKA ARROW.

FWWIRP

THE ALIEN LAUGHS AT CENTAURIANS "FLAWED" MARKSMANSHIP...

...UNTIL YONDU WHISTLES!

IT IS AN EAR-PIERCINGLY SHRILL SOUND...

... AND IT CALISES THE ARROW TO TURN AND DIP IN MID-FLIGHT...

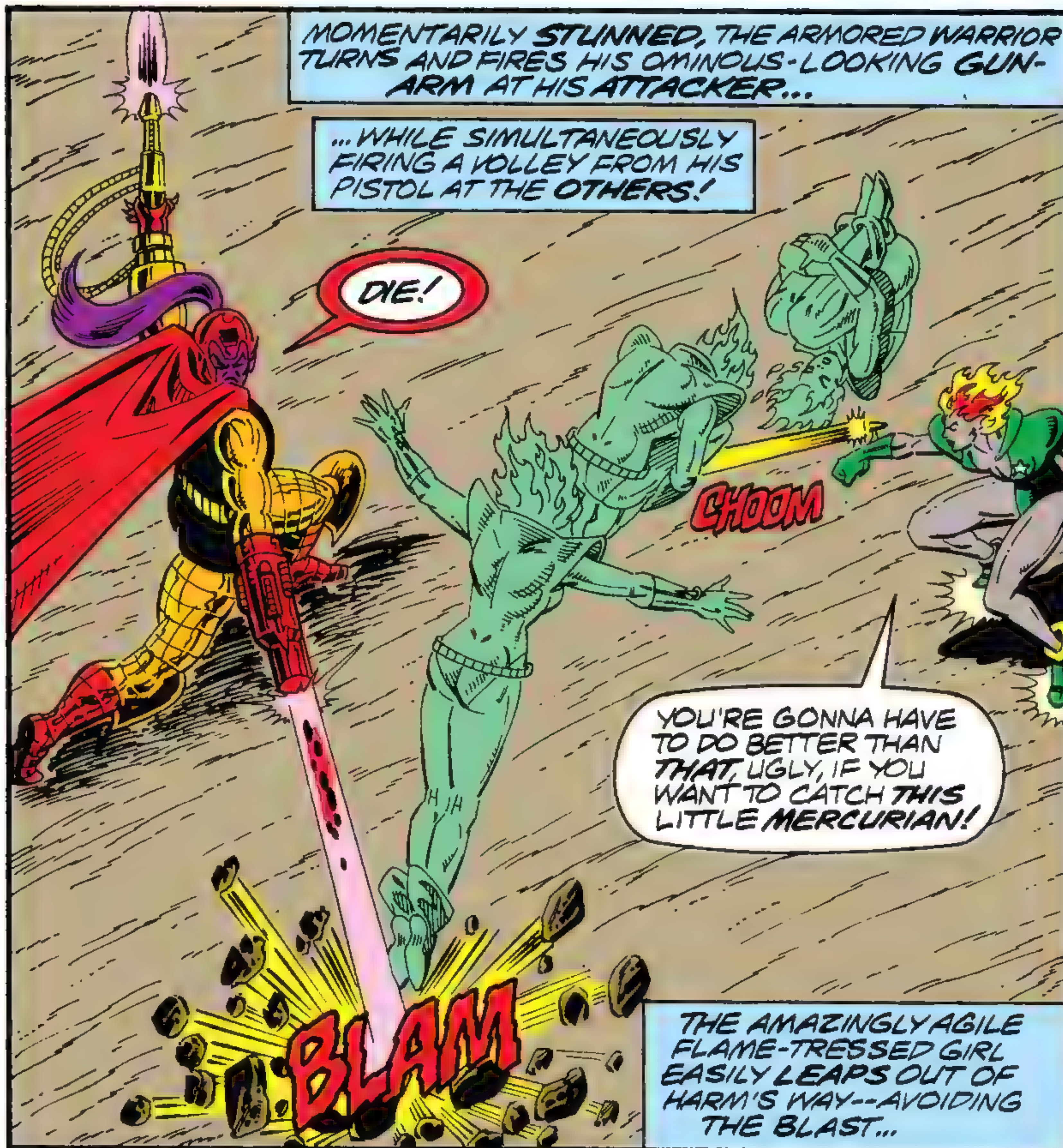
... ZOOMING ALL AROUND ITS TARGET LIKE AN ANGRY HORNET...

EHHHH

... CONFUSING TASERFACE JUST LONG ENOUGH TO LET NIKKI GET A SHOT IN WITH HER WRIST-BLASTERS!

AARGGHH!!





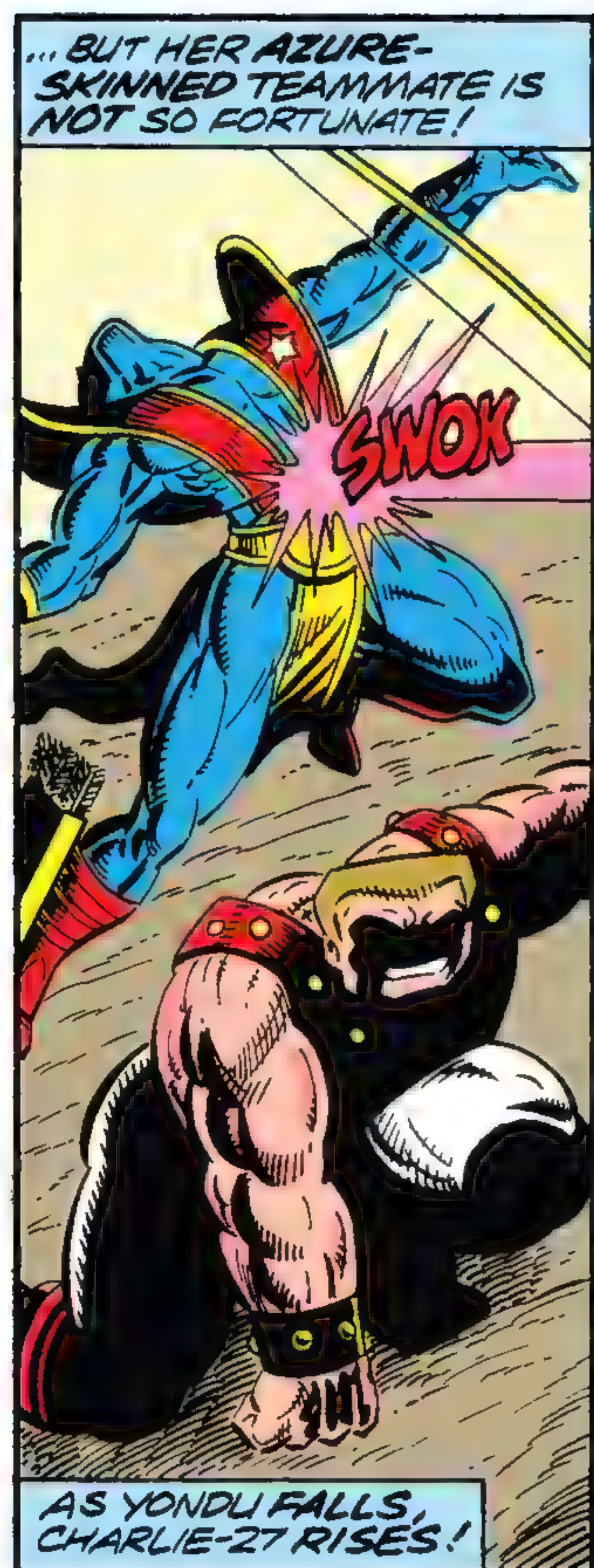
MOMENTARILY STUNNED, THE ARMORED WARRIOR TURNS AND FIRES HIS OMINOUS-LOOKING GUN-ARM AT HIS ATTACKER...

...WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY FIRING A VOLLEY FROM HIS PISTOL AT THE OTHERS!

DIE!

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, UGLY, IF YOU WANT TO CATCH THIS LITTLE MERCURIAN!

THE AMAZINGLY AGILE FLAME-TRESSED GIRL EASILY LEAPS OUT OF HARM'S WAY--AVOIDING THE BLAST...



... BUT HER AZURE-SKINNED TEAMMATE IS NOT SO FORTUNATE!

AS YONDU FALLS, CHARLIE-27 RISES!



AND MARTINEX MAKES A DESPERATE PLEA.

ALETA! WE NEED STARHAWK'S POWER!

NO.

PLEASE, I KNOW IT'S PAINFUL FOR YOU...

...BUT BOTH VANCE AND YONDU ARE DOWN...

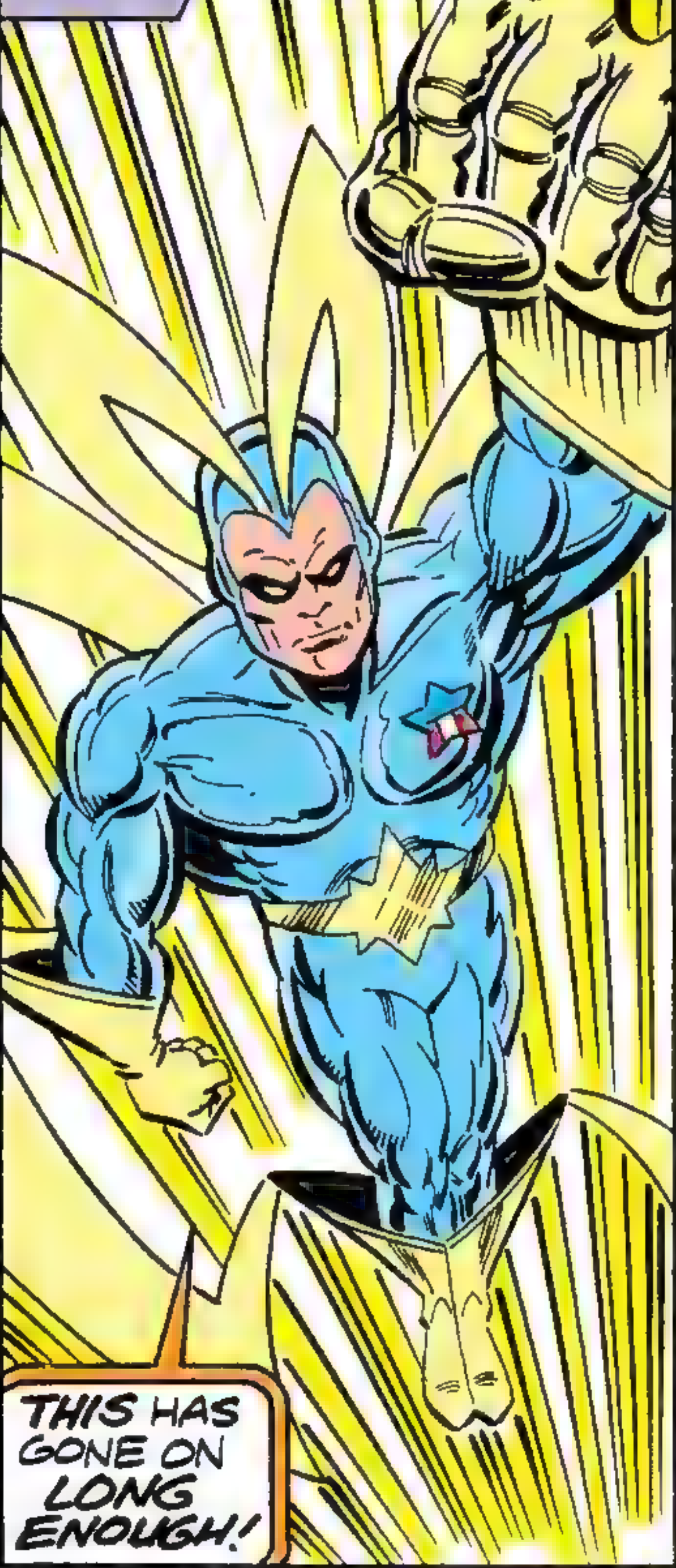


"...AND I DON'T THINK THAT EITHER CHARLIE OR NIKKI CAN HOLD THIS ALIEN FOR LONG!"

THE MASSIVE JOVIAN PUTS THE FULL FORCE OF HIS HALF-TON FRAME INTO A POWERFUL BODY SLAM!

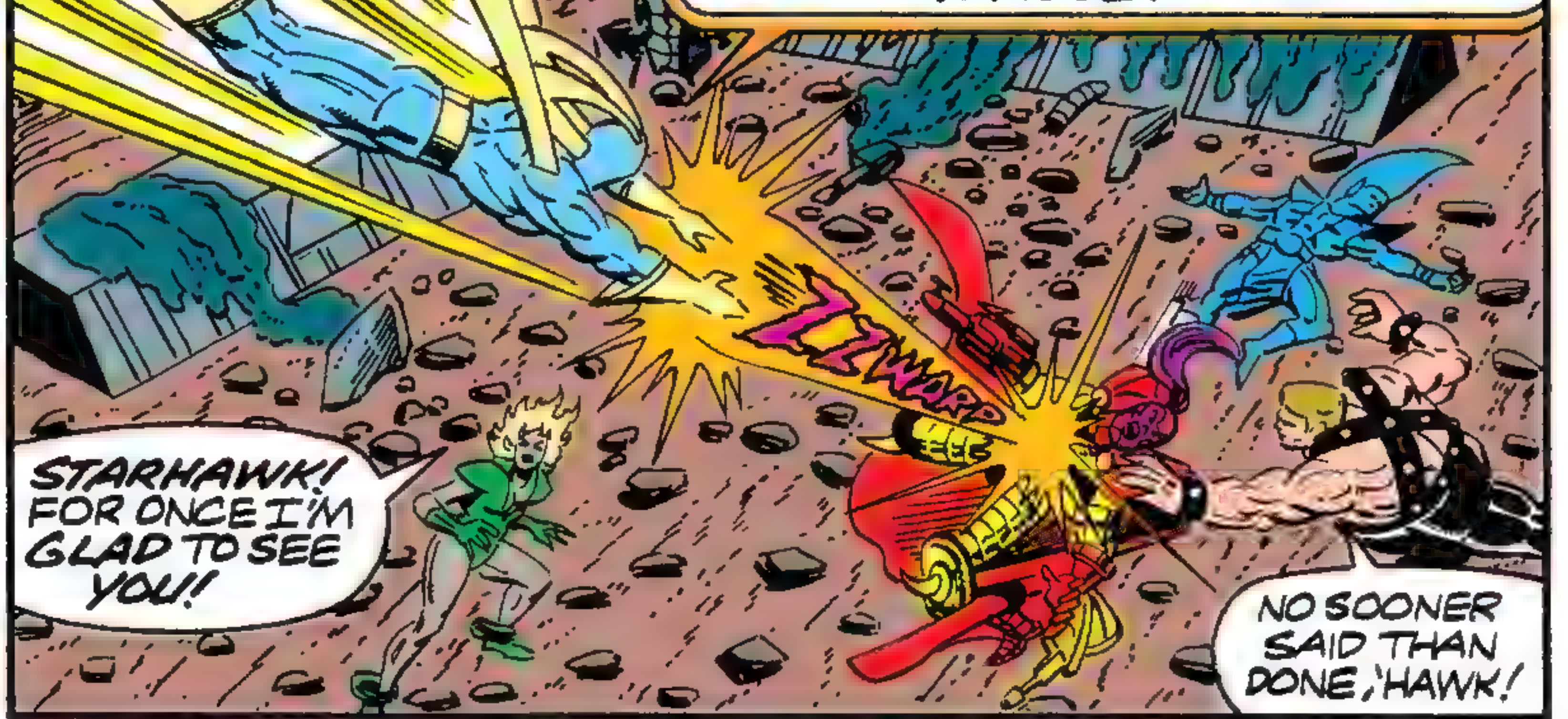


EVEN WHILE STARHAWK, RELUCTANTLY RELEASED BY ALETA, ENTERS THE FRAY!



THIS HAS GONE ON LONG ENOUGH!

CHARLIE, CAN YOU GRAB THE CREATURE AND HOLD HIM WHILE THE OTHERS PREPARE TO ATTACK EN MASSE!



STARHAWK!  
FOR ONCE I'M  
GLAD TO SEE  
YOU!

NO SOONER  
SAID THAN  
DONE, HAWK!

I SAW THIS MANUEVER ON ANCIENT TELEVISION WHEN WE WERE IN THE 20TH CENTURY.



IT'S CALLED A "HALF-NISSON," I BELIEVE. THIS SHOULD HOLD HIM!

FOOL!  
YOU HOLD  
NOTHING!

THERE IS A REASON WHY I AM CALLED TASERFACE!

AARRGH!

ZZERRAP

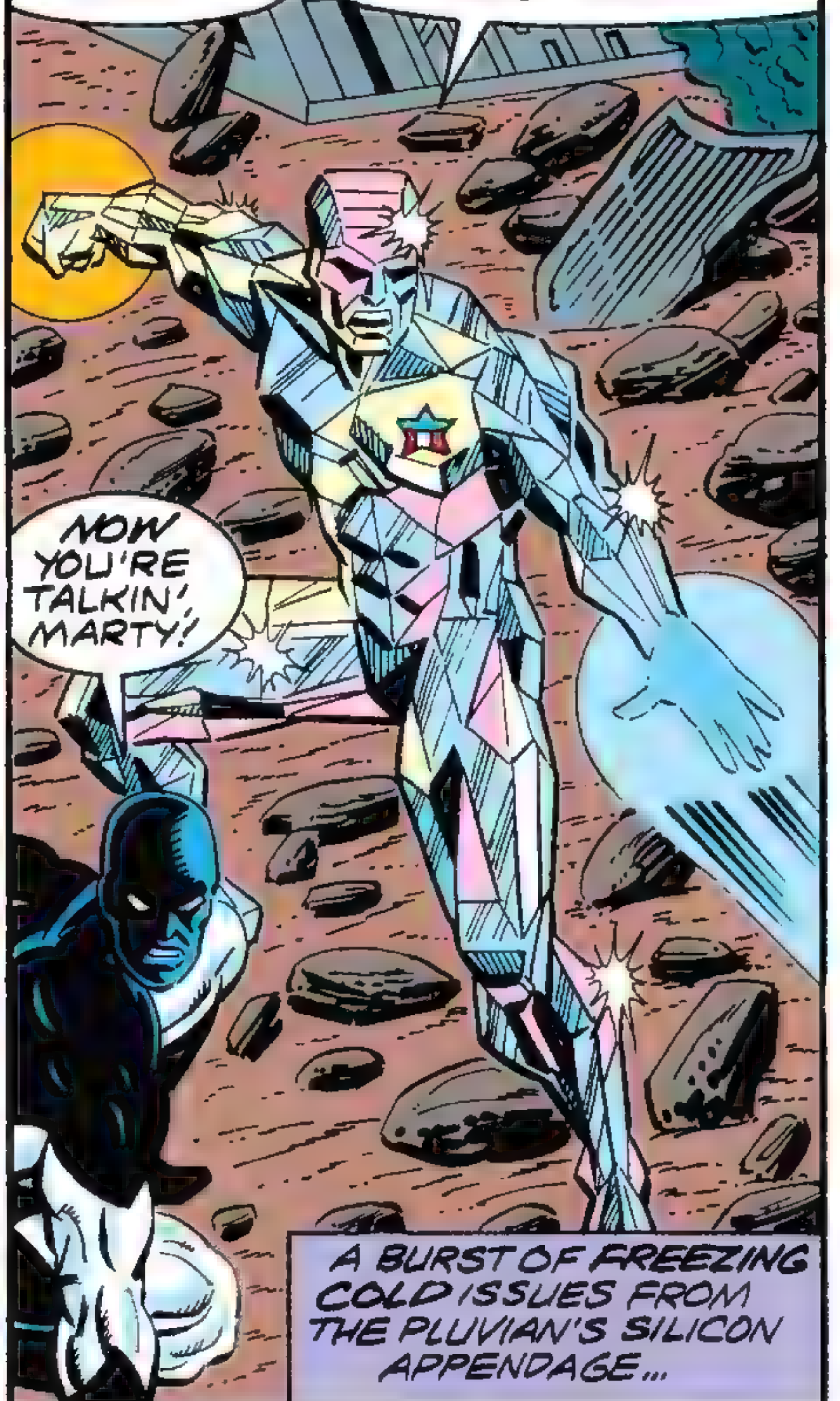
A BEAM OF DEADLY ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY EMITS FROM THE ALIEN'S FACE...



... AND THE ONE-WHO-KNOWS IS SENT REELING WITH THE BRUNT OF ITS FORCE!

I AM TIRED OF PLAYING GAMES WITH THIS GUY!

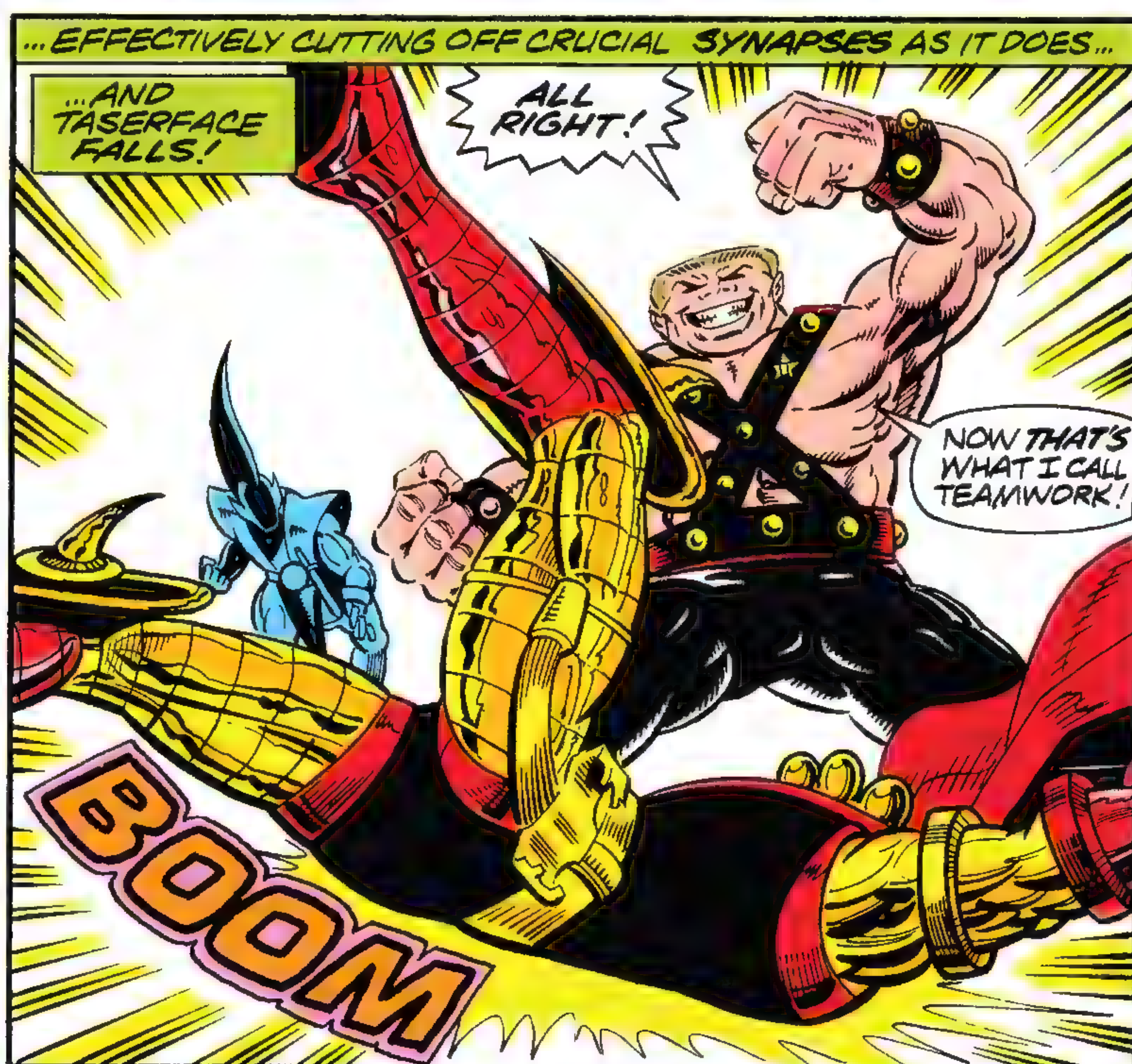
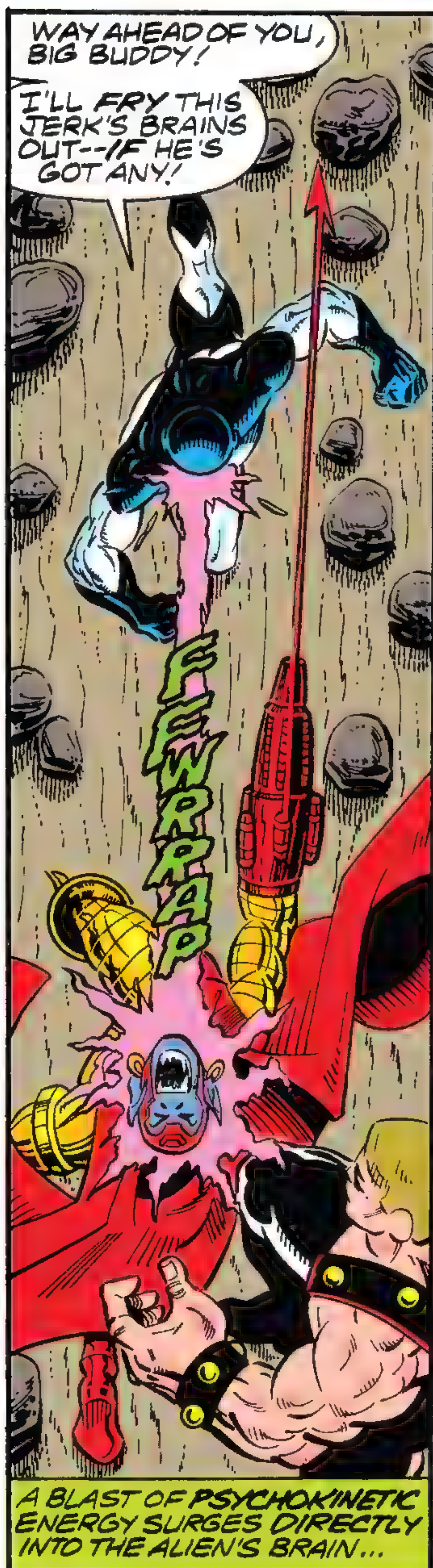
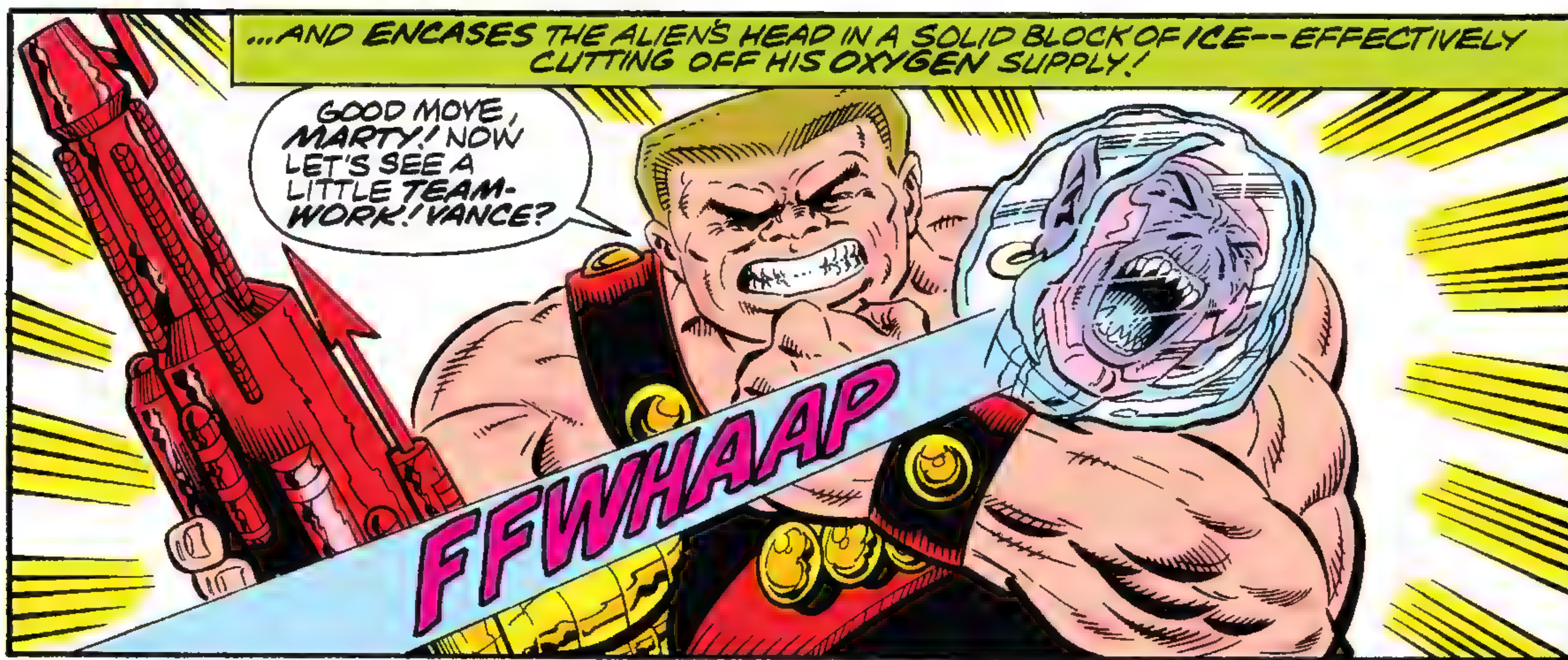
YOU WANT TO PLAY ROUGH, "TASERFACE," OKAY, LET'S PLAY REAL ROUGH!



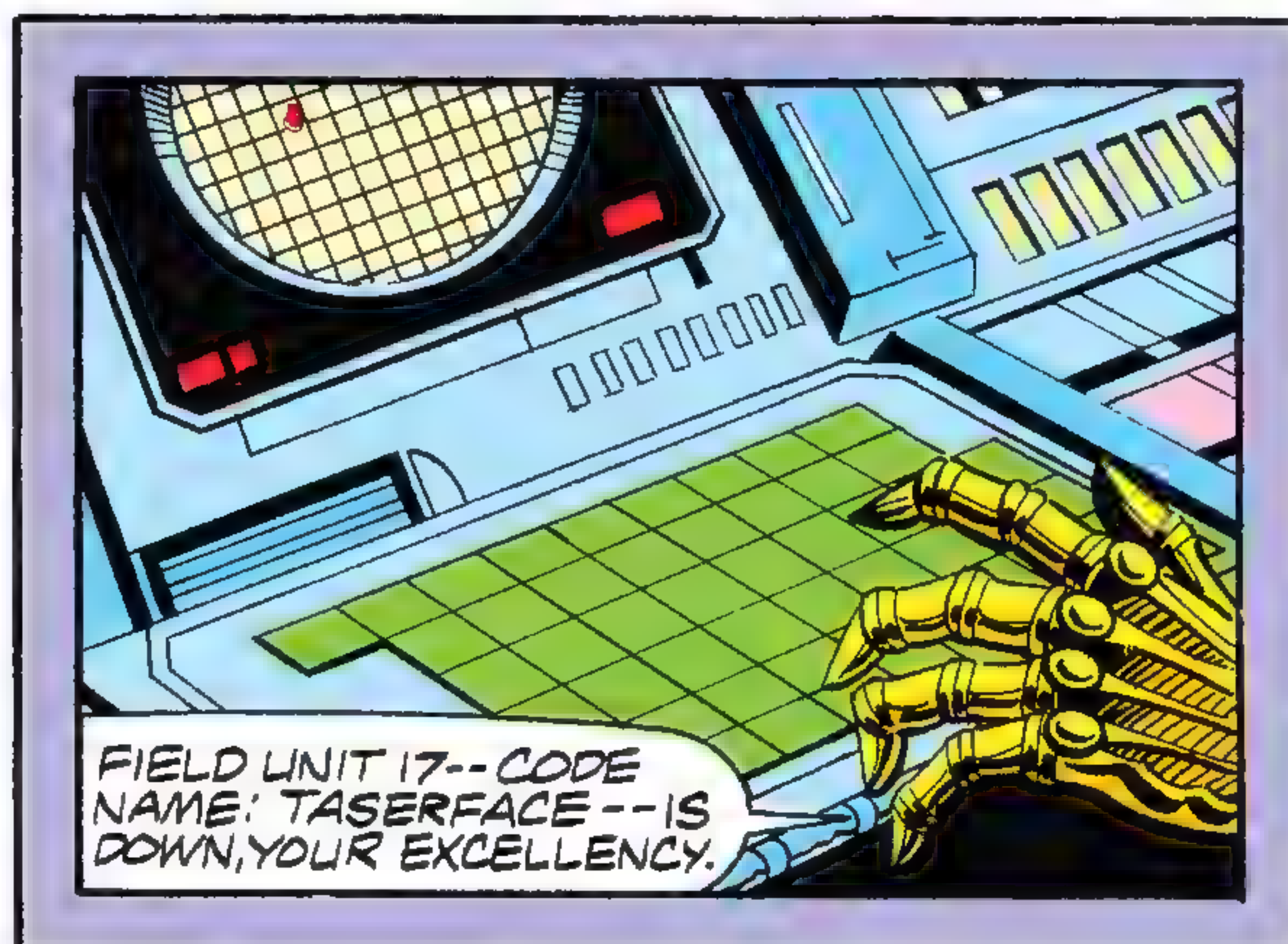
NOW YOU'RE TALKIN' MARTY!

A BURST OF FREEZING COLD ISSUES FROM THE PLUVIAN'S SILICON APPENDAGE...

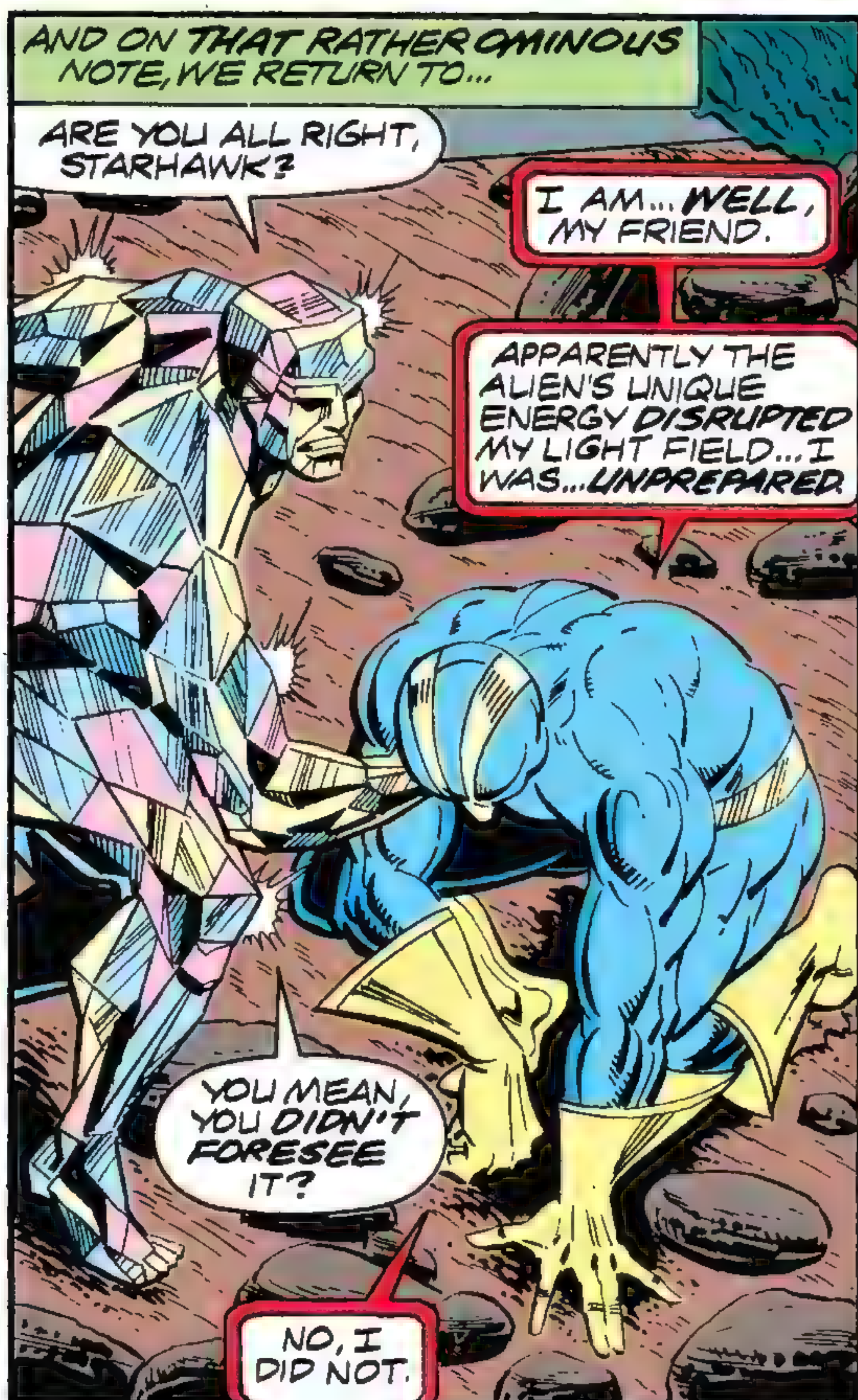
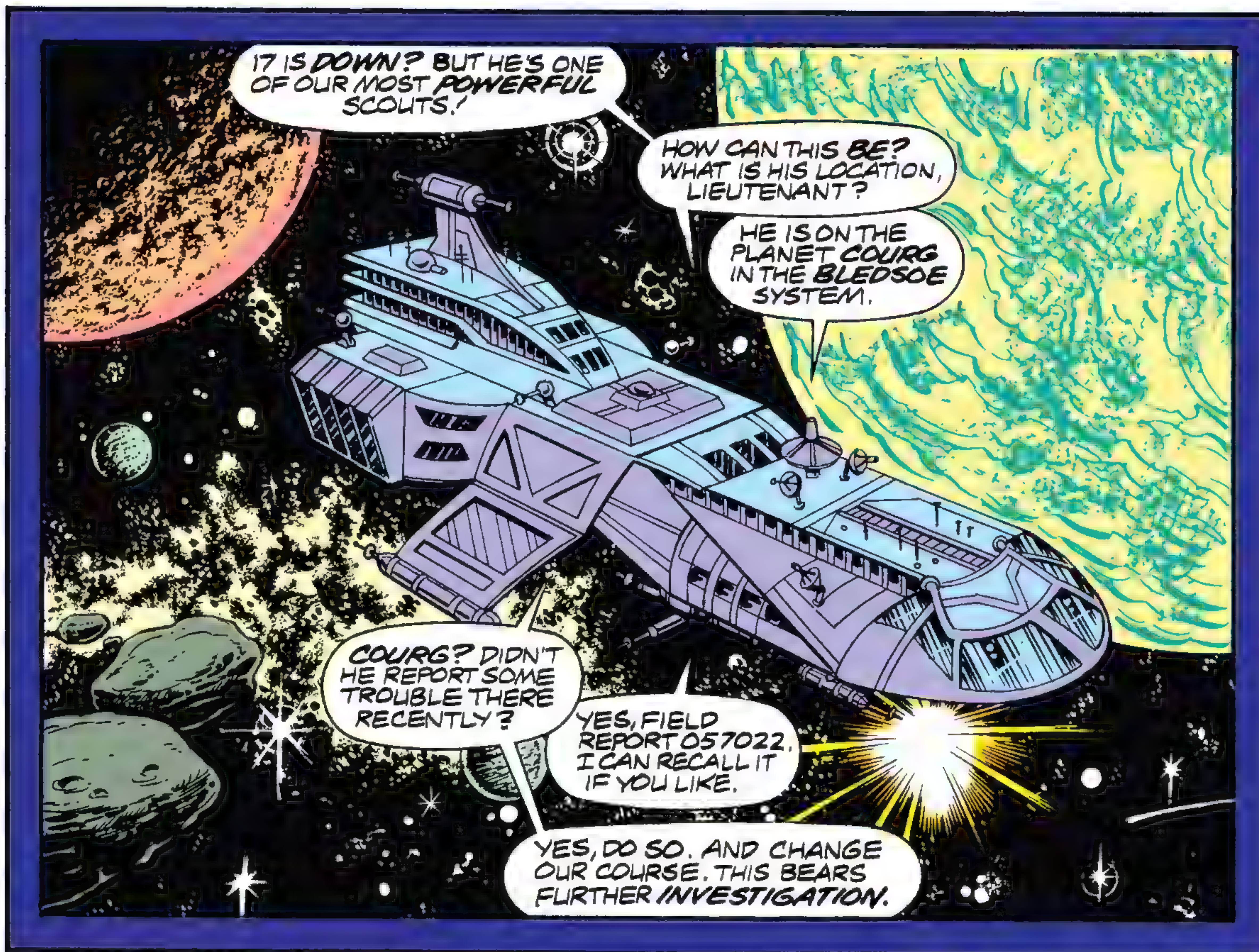




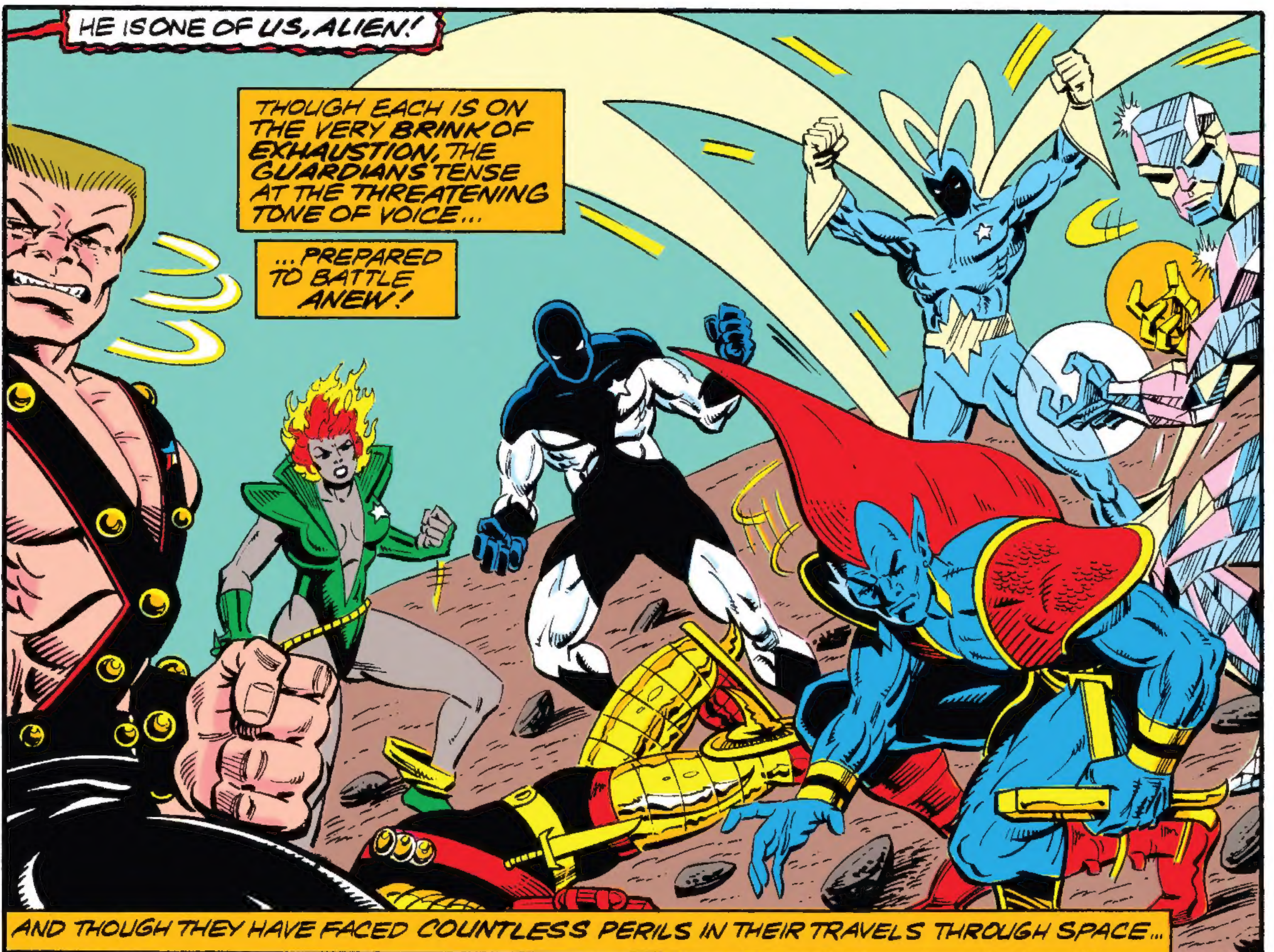
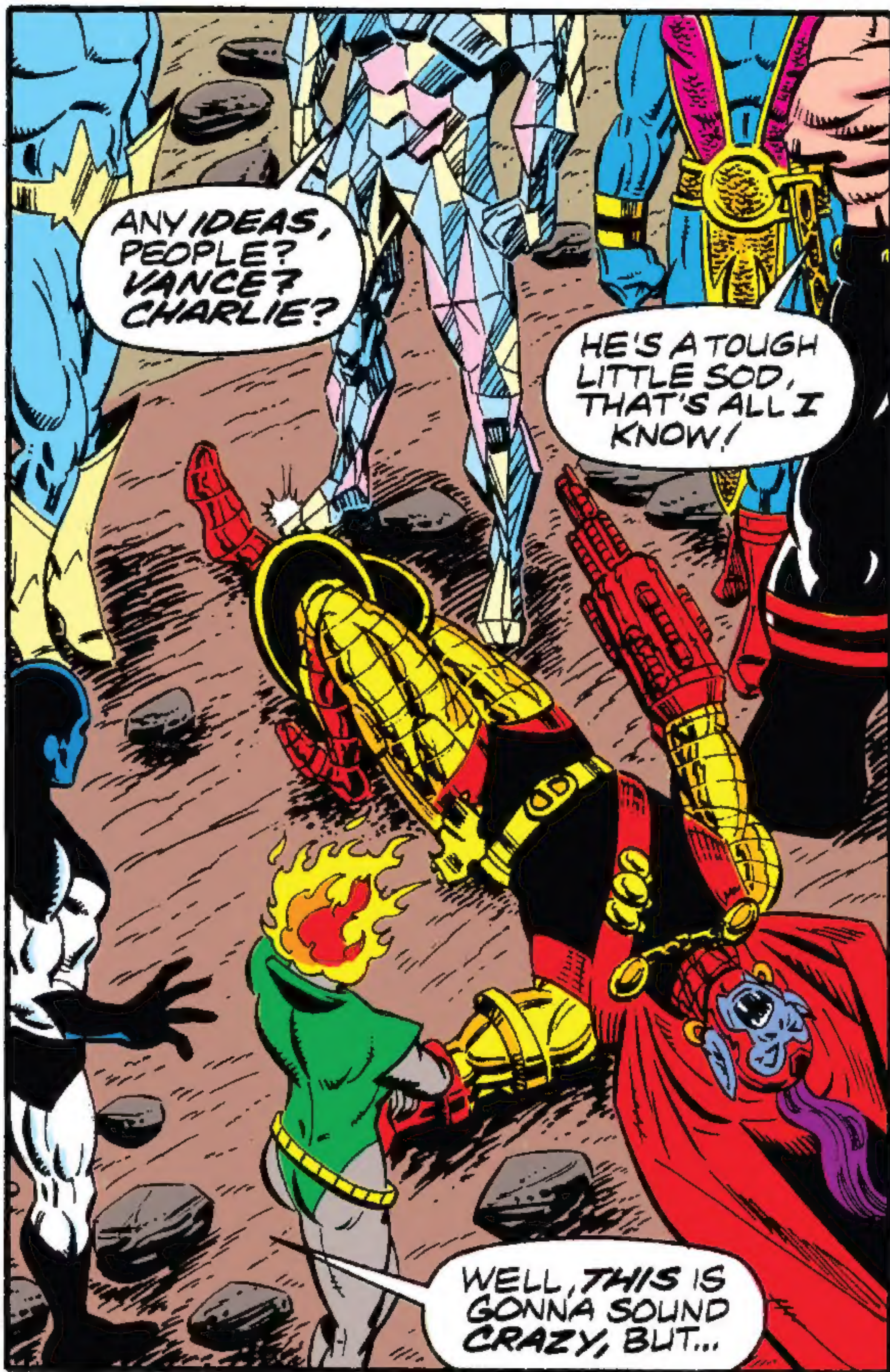
ELSEWHERE...













...NONE IS PREPARED FOR WHAT THEY SEE!

THEY THOUGHT TASERFACE WAS TROUBLE--NOW THEY FACE AN ARMY OF BEINGS JUST LIKE HIM!

AND WE ALWAYS PROTECT OUR OWN!

MAKE PEACE WITH WHATEVER GODS YOU WORSHIP, CREATURES...

...YOUR LIVES ARE FORFEIT FOR HAVING THE TEMERITY TO HARM A MEMBER OF...

# THE STARK!

NEXT ISSUE!  
'NUFF SAID!



# GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

**DREAM ON**

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***BUT ARE THEY READY FOR...TASERFACE!***

FROM GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY (1990) #1

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